

# The Hongkong Telegraph.

No. 2819.

THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 1891.

SIX DOLLARS PER QUARTER

## Banks.

THE NEW ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION, LIMITED.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL £2,000,000.  
PAID-UP CAPITAL £1,800,000.

### LONDON:

Head Office, 40, Threadneedle Street.  
West End Office, 25, Cockspur Street.

BRANCHES IN INDIA, CHINA, JAPAN  
AND THE COLONIES.

THE BANK receives MONEY ON DEPOSIT, issues Letters of Credit, forwards Bills for Collection, and Transacts Banking and Agency Business generally, on terms to be had on application.

INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS:  
Fixed for 12 months, 5 per Cent. per Annum.  
" 6 " 4 " "  
" 3 " 3 " "  
ON CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS  
3 per Cent. per Annum on the Daily Balance.

E. W. RUTTER,  
Manager. [10]

## Insurances.

EXAMPLES OF THE COST OF ASSURANCE TO A MAN AGED 30 NEXT BIRTHDAY.

£1,000 STG. payable at death, would cost per quarter at the rate of—  
£ 61s 0 (a) If premiums are payable for whole of life  
or £ 9 11 6 (b) If premiums are limited to 20 years  
or £ 11 4 6 (c) If premiums are limited to 15 years  
or £ 13 0 0 (d) If the Sum Assured is made payable at age 50, or at death if previous.

\* Secured payments.  
THE same provisions if commenced at age 40 n. b. would cost respectively (a) £8.15.0, (b) £11.5.0, (c) £13.2.4, (d) £17.2.8 per quarter.

ADAMSON, BELL & Co.,  
Agents.

THE TOKYO MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED, OF TOKYO.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL £1,200,000.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents are prepared to accept first class HULL RISKS AT CURRENT RATES.

GEO. R. STEVENS & Co.  
Hongkong, 1st April, 1891. [517]

SOUTH BRITISH FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW ZEALAND.

THE Undersigned are prepared to accept FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCES on favourable terms.

Current rates and a guaranteed Bonus equal to that paid by the local Offices.

GEORGE R. STEVENS & Co.,  
Agents.  
No. 2, Queen's Road, Hongkong.  
Hongkong, 31st March, 1891. [514]

GENERAL LIFE AND FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY IN LONDON.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to ACCEPT RISKS AGAINST FIRE AND LIFE AT CURRENT RATES.

REUTER, BROCKELMANN & Co.,  
Agents.  
Hongkong, 1st July, 1889. [666]

THE EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES.

RUSSELL & Co.,  
Agents.  
Hongkong, 14th November, 1890. [1567]

THE MAN ON INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED.

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED £1,000,000.

The above Company is prepared to accept MARINE RISKS AT CURRENT RATES, on Goods, &c. Policies granted to all Parts of the world payable at any of its Agencies.

WOO LIN YUEN,  
Secretary.

HEAD OFFICE, 20, Queen's Road West.  
Hongkong, 1st February, 1891. [1216]

GENERAL NOTICE.

THE ON TAI INSURANCE COMPANY, (LIMITED.)

CAPITAL, TAELS 600,000, } \$833,333-33-  
EQUAL TO £1,000,000.  
RESERVE FUND } \$318,000-00-00.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.  
LEE SING, Esq. | LO YAT MOON, Esq.  
LOU TSO SHUN, Esq. |

MANAGER—HO AMEL.

MARINE RISKS ON GOODS, &c., taken at Current Rates to all parts of the world.

HEAD OFFICE, 8 & 9, PRAYA WEST.  
Hongkong, 17th December, 1889. [1250]

THE NORTH-CHINA INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE FOURTEENTH ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the above Company will be held at the Head Office, Shanghai, on MONDAY, the 20th instant, at 2.30 p.m., for presentation of the Report of the Directors and the Accounts for the 31st December, 1890, the election of Directors and Auditors for the current year, and for the purpose of transacting any other business which may be transacted at an Ordinary General Meeting.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 8th to the 30th inst., both days inclusive.

By Order of the Court of Directors,  
ALEX. ROSS,  
Secretary.  
Shanghai, 1st April, 1891. [1666]

## Masonic.

VICTORIA CHAPTER, No. 525.

THE FIRST REGULAR CONVOCATION of the District Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Hongkong and South China will be held in MASONIC HALL, TO-MORROW, the 17th inst., at 8.30 for 9 p.m. precisely.

All Royal Arch Masons, Members of Victoria Chapter, are also cordially invited to attend.  
Hongkong, 14th April, 1891. [577]

### VICTORIA PRECEPTORY.

AN EMERGENCY MEETING of the Victoria Preceptory will be held on MONDAY, the 20th instant, at 5 for 5.30 p.m. precisely. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited to attend.  
Hongkong, 13th April, 1891. [571]

## Consignees.

NORDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

S.S. "PREUSSEN," FROM BREMEN AND PORTS OF CALL.

THE above named steamer having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods, with the exception of Optium, Treasure and Valuables, are being landed and stored at their risk in the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, Kowloon, whence delivery may be obtained.

Optional cargo will go on to Shanghai, unless notice to the contrary be given before 4 p.m. this afternoon, the 15th inst.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining after the 23rd inst. will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed, and damaged goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on Thursday, the 23rd inst., at 4 P.M.

All Claims must reach us before the 23rd inst., or they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by MELCHERS & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 15th April, 1891. [4]

AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN LLOYD'S STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM TRIESTE, PORT SAID, SUEZ, JEDDAH, SUAKIM, MASSAWAH, HODEDDA, ADEN, BOMBAY, COLOMBO, PENANG, AND SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship "MARIA TERESA" having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods, with the exception of optium, are being landed at their risk into the Godowns known as The Hongkong Wharf and Godowns, Vanchai, whence delivery may be obtained.

Consignees wishing to receive their Goods on the Wharf are at liberty to do so.

This vessel brings on Cargo—  
From Trieste, ex S.S. "IMPERATOR," transhipped at Bombay.

From Calcutta, ex S.S. "SELENE," transhipped at Colombo.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all claims must be sent in to the Undersigned before NOON on the 21st inst., or they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance has been effected, and any Goods remaining in the Godowns after the 21st inst. will be subject to rent.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 14th April, 1891. [576]

"MOGUL" LINE OF STEAMERS.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

STEAMSHIP "ALBANY," FROM GLASGOW, LIVERPOOL, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo are hereby informed that all goods are being landed at their risk, into the Godown of the Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, at Kowloon, whence and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless notice to the contrary be given before NOON, TO-DAY.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 20th inst. will be subject to rent.

All claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Undersigned on or before the 20th inst., or they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by ADAMSON, BELL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 13th April, 1891. [538]

"SHIRE" LINE OF STEAMERS.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

S.S. "FLINTSHIRE," FROM HAMBURG, ANTWERP, LONDON, AND STRAITS.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, at Kowloon, whence and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained.

Optional cargo will be forwarded unless notice to the contrary be given before noon, TO-MORROW.

No claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 21st instant, will be subject to rent.

All claims against the steamer must be presented to the Undersigned on or before the 21st inst., or they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by ADAMSON, BELL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 14th April, 1891. [556]

## Intimations.

KELLY & WALSH, LD.

AYRE'S CHAMPIONSHIP TENNIS BALLS of 1891 manufacture.

Salter's Black Gut Tennis Bats.

Slazenger's "The Demon" and "Special Demon" Bat.

Lawn Tennis Presses.

Tape Measures for making out Courts.

A fine selection of Dog Collars.

New Menu Tablets.

Plain and Gilt Edge Squerees.

Dougherty's Indicator Cards.

Cheap Playing Cards for Clubs.

Foster's Self Teaching Whist Cards, by means of which any one may acquire not only a knowledge of the game, but a proficient Scientific player.

Poker Chips and Counters.

Whist Markers.

SWEET CAPORAL CIGARETTES.

KELLY & WALSH, LIMITED, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, HONGKONG.

Hongkong, 14th April, 1891. [7]

ROBERT LANG & CO., TAILORS, HATTERS, SHIRTMAKERS, AND GENTLEMEN'S OUTFITTERS, OPPOSITE HONGKONG HOTEL.

OUR Stock of Seasonable Goods is now complete in all the newest MATERIALS, comprising a large variety of DRESS SUITING from \$30 upwards. TWEEDS for SUITS, ULSTERS and INVERNESS CAPES, CORDS and ELASTICS for RIDING and SHOOTING BREECHES and LEGGINGS.

EVENING DRESS SHIRTS, COLLARS, TIES, CLOVES, SILK, LISLE THREAD and CASHMERE, SOCKS, PATENT LEATHER PUMPS and SHOES, &c., &c., &c.

ROBERT LANG & Co.  
Hongkong, 9th January, 1891. [136]

W. B. BREWER HAS JUST RECEIVED

OLIVER Wendell Holmes' Works, complete 6 vols.

Year Book of Medical Treatment, 1891.

Booth's In Darkest England, cheap ed.

Cyclopedia of Classical Quotations 9 vols., \$3.75

Ventilation by Buchan.

Rosset's How to find the Stars.

Encyclopedia of Whist.

Cavendish, Pole, Walker, and Clay on Whist.

Wilson's 2 Century in Photography.

Stanley on Surveying Instruments.

Renan's Life of Christ, and other works by same author.

New Pianos by Broadwood, Collard and Collard, Kirkman, &c. on easy terms.

New Stock of Brown Russia Shoes, excellent quality and very reasonable.

W. B. BREWER, UNDER HONGKONG HOTEL. [159]

BURGUNDIES.

BEAUJOLAIS, MACON, BEAUNE, POMMARD, VOLNAY, CLOS DE VOUGEOT, CHAMBERTIN, SPARKLING RED BURGUNDY, CHAULIS.

CALDBECK, MACGREGOR & Co., WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

Hongkong—15, Queen's Road. [16]

W. POWELL & CO. NEW SHIPMENT OF

COOKING RANGES, LAMPS, LAMP SUKDRIES, COOKING UTENSILS, FAIRBANK'S SCALES, MILNER'S SAFES.

W. POWELL & CO. HONGKONG 1st April 1891. [16]

PIANOS FOR SALE. A. HAHN. PIANOS ON HIRE.

20 % DISCOUNT ON ALL.

FANCY GOODS, LEATHERY GOODS, LADIES' DRESSES, JERSEYS, STOCKINGS, &c., &c., &c.

LADIES' UMBRELLAS, GENTLEMEN'S HATS, HOSES, CHILDREN'S DRESSES, BOOTS.

No. 2, PEDDER'S STREET. [18]

HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION! 9TH PRIZE MEETING.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO. HAVE FOR SALE

MARTINI-HENRI MATCH RIFLES.

LOADING & CLEANING SETS, FITTED CASES OF PAINTS & REQUISITES, FRONT AND BACK SIGHT PROTECTORS, POCKET CLEANERS IN CASES, VERNIERS, VENTOMETERS, BARREL BRUSHES, ORTHOPTICS, BARREL REFLECTORS, GUN OIL, CARTRIDGE BAGS, WIMBLEDON SCORING BOOKS, &c., &c.

WATERPROOF GROUND SHEETS, SHOOTING BOOTS.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO. HONGKONG, 25th March, 1891. [59]

CRUICKSHANK & CO., LD., FAMILY AND DISPENSING CHEMISTS, AND Commission Agents.

KOLA-CHOCOLATE.

SPECIALLY suitable for delicate persons, invalids, dyspeptics, brain workers, travellers, sportsmen, athletes, and in all other instances where a nourishing and sustaining food is a necessity.

SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED BY M. K. HARGREAVES, M.D.

GRANT'S SCOTCH OAT FLOUR.

A Special preparation from Finest Scotch Oats for Infants and Invalids.

SOLD IN TINS, 50 CENTS EACH.

HONGKONG, 7th April, 1891. [57]

## Shipping.

STEAMERS.

STEAM TO YOKOHAMA, VIA NAGASAKI AND KOBE.

(Passing through the INLAND SEA.)

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamship

"VERONA," Captain F. H. Seymour, will leave for the above places on SATURDAY, the 18th inst., at DAYLIGHT.

E. L. WOODIN, Superintendent.

Hongkong, 7th April, 1891. [5]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR PORT DARWIN, QUEENSLAND PORTS, SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.

THE Company's Steamship

"CHANGSHA," J. E. Williams, Commander, will be despatched as above on MONDAY, the 20th inst.

The attention of Passengers is directed to the Superior Accommodation offered by this Steamer. First Class Saloon and Cabin are situated forward of the Engine.

Second Class Passengers are berthed in the Poop. A Refrigerating Chamber ensures the supply of Fresh Provisions during the entire voyage. A duly qualified Surgeon is carried.

For Freight or Passage, apply to BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hongkong, 11th April, 1891. [566]

AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN LLOYD'S STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

STEAM FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, BOMBAY, ADEN, HODEIDAH, MASSAWAH, SUAKIM, JEDDAH, SUEZ, PORT SAID, BRINDISI, TRIESTE, VENICE AND FUME.

(Telling Cargo at through rates to CALCUTTA, MADRAS, PERSIAN GULF, RED SEA, BLACK SEA, LYON, and ADRIATIC PORTS).

THE Company's Steamship

"MARIA TERESA," Captain R. Deperis, will be despatched as above on TUESDAY, the 21st instant, at NOON.

Cargo will not be received on board after 3 P.M. prior to date of sailing.

For further information as to Passage and Freight, apply to DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 8th April, 1891. [551]

STEAM TO STRAITS AND BOMBAY, (Calling at Colombo if sufficient inducement offers).

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamship

"THIBET," Captain W. L. Brown, will leave for the above places on FRIDAY, the 24th instant, at NOON.

E. L. WOODIN, Superintendent.

Hongkong, 11th April, 1891. [567]

## Mails.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG, 1891.

Partha ..... Tuesday... May 5th.

Empress of Japan | Tuesday... June 2nd.

Empress of India | Tuesday... June 30th.

THE Steamship

"PARTHA," Captain J. Pantou, R.N.R., sailing at Noon, on TUESDAY, the 5th May, with Her Majesty's Mails, will proceed to VANCOUVER, via SHANGHAI and YOKOHAMA.

RATES OF PASSAGE, FROM HONGKONG, FIRST CLASS.

To Vancouver, Victoria, Esquimaux, Seattle, Tacoma, Portland, O. .... \$225.00

To Banff, Calgary ..... \$225.00

To Winnipeg ..... \$225.00

To Minneapolis, St. Paul, Duluth ..... \$285.00

To Chicago, Kansas City, St. Louis, Milwaukee ..... \$295.00

To Detroit, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Hamilton, London, (Ont.) ..... \$305.00

To Toronto, Niagara Falls ..... \$310.00

To Kingston, Ottawa, Montreal, Quebec, New York, Albany, Troy, Rochester, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Washington, Boston, Portland (Maine), Halifax, St. John's.

To Liverpool and London ..... \$315.00

To Paris and Bremen ..... \$345.00

To Havre and Hamburg ..... \$335.00

Through Passage Tickets granted to England, France, and Germany by all trans-Atlantic lines of steamers.

Special rates (first-class only) are granted to Missionaries, members of the Naval, Military, Diplomatic, and Civil Services, to European officials in service of China and Japan, and to Government officials.

Return Tickets.—First and second class only. —Prepaid return tickets to Pacific Coast Ports, and to Eastern and Interior Points of Canada and U.S.A. will be granted, available for 12 months at 25 per cent. off Return Fare.

4 " 50 per cent. " " " (Time reckoned from the date of issue to date of re-embarkation at Vancouver.)

Passengers to Pacific Coast Ports and to Interior and Eastern Points of Canada and U.S.A. not holding prepaid return tickets, but who re-embark at Vancouver within 12 months from date of issue of original ticket, will be allowed to per cent. off the return fare.

Prepaid return tickets to Liverpool and London will be issued available for 12 months at \$50.00 for 4 months, \$57.50 for 6 months, and \$65.00 for 12 months.

CARGO.—Through Bills of Lading issued to Japan, Pacific Coast Ports, and to Canadian and United States Ports.

Consular Invoices of Goods for United States Ports should be in quadruplicate; and one copy must be sent forward by the steamer to the care of D. E. Brown, Assistant General Freight and Passenger Agent, Canadian Pacific Railway Company, Vancouver, B. C.

Parcels must be sent to our Office with address marked in full by 5 P.M. on the day previous to sailing.

For further information as to Passage or Freight, apply to ADAMSON, BELL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 8th April, 1891. [54]

## Mails.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

THROUGH TO NEW YORK, VIA OVERLAND RAILWAYS, AND TOUCHING AT YOKOHAMA AND SAN FRANCISCO.

THE U.S. MAIL STEAMSHIP

"CITY OF PEKING," will be despatched for SAN FRANCISCO, via YOKOHAMA and HONOLULU, on SATURDAY, the 24th inst., at 4 P.M. Passengers and Freight to Japan, the United States, and Europe.











## Commercial.

**LATEST QUOTATIONS.**  
 Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, ex. New Issue, 200 per cent., premium, sellers.  
 Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, cum New Issue, 235 per cent., sellers.  
 Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, New Issue, 235 per cent., premium, sellers.  
 Union Insurance Society of Canton—\$95 per share, buyers.  
 China Traders' Insurance Company—\$63 per share, buyers.  
 North China Insurance—Tls. 275 per share, buyers.  
 Canton Insurance Company, Limited—\$115 per share, sellers.  
 Yangtze Insurance Association—Tls. 70 per share, nominal.  
 On Tai Insurance Company, Limited—Tls. 150 per share.  
 Hongkong Fire Insurance Company—\$315 per share, sellers.  
 China Fire Insurance Company—\$224 per share, buyers.  
 Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company—\$98 per cent., premium, sellers.  
 Hongkong, Canton, and Mico Steamboat Co.—\$131 per share, sales.  
 China and Manila Steam Ship Company—120 per share, sellers.  
 Hongkong Gas Company—\$131 per share, sellers.  
 Hongkong Hotel Company—\$120 per share, buyers.  
 Hongkong Hotel Co.'s Six per cent. Debentures—\$120 per share, discount, sellers.  
 Indo-China Steam Navigation Company, Limited—30 per cent. discount, sellers.  
 Douglas Steamship Company—\$48 per share, buyers.  
 China Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$200 per share, buyers.  
 Luzon Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$91 per share, sellers.  
 Hongkong Ice Company—\$50 per share, buyers.  
 Hongkong and China Bakery Company, Limited—\$75 per share.  
 Hongkong Dairy Farm Co., Limited—\$7 per share, buyers.  
 A. S. Watson & Co., Limited—\$212 per share, buyers.  
 Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 B—21 per cent. premium, sellers.  
 Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 C—5 per cent. premium, buyers.  
 Chinese Imperial Loan of 1885 E—14 per cent. premium.  
 Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company, Limited—\$122 per share, ex. div., sales and buyers.  
 Hongkong Steam Laundry Co., Limited—\$25 per share, nominal.  
 Funjong and Sunghie Dua Samantan Mining Co.—\$3 per share, sellers.  
 The Raub Gold Mining Co., Limited—30 cents per share, sellers.  
 Inauris Mining Co., Limited—\$122 per share, buyers.  
 The Balmoral Gold Mining Co., Limited—\$7 per share, sellers.  
 Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company—\$70 per share, buyers.  
 Tongkoo Coal Mining Co.—\$430 per share, buyers.  
 The Hongkong High-Level Tramway Co., Limited—\$65 per share, buyers.  
 The East Borneo Planting Co., Limited—\$10 per share, sellers.  
 H. G. Brown & Co., Limited—\$54 per share, sales and sellers.  
 The Seng Koyah Planting Co., Limited—\$131 per share, buyers.  
 Cruickshank & Co., Limited—\$35 per share, sellers.  
 The Steam Launch Co., Limited—nominal.  
 The Austin Arms Hotel and Building Company, Limited—\$13 per share, sellers.  
 The China-Borneo Co., Limited—\$6 per share, sellers.  
 The Hongkong Brick and Cement Co., Limited—\$12 per share, sellers.  
 The Green Island Cement Co.—\$17 per share, sellers.  
 The Hongkong Land Investment Co., Limited—\$87 per share, sellers.  
 The Hongkong Electric Light Co., Limited—\$6 per share, buyers.  
 Geo. Fenwick & Co., Limited—\$15 per share, sellers.  
 The West Point Buildings Co., Limited—\$30 per share, sellers.  
 The Peak Hotel and Trading Co., Limited—\$8 per share, sellers.  
 The Labuk Planting Co., Limited—15 per share, buyers.  
 The Laming Planting Co., Limited—\$7 per share, buyers.  
 The Jelabu Mining and Trading Co., Limited—\$2 per share, buyers.  
 The Selama Tin Mining Co., Limited—\$1 per share, buyers.  
 The Shamen Hotel Co., Limited—nominal.  
 The Kowloon Land Investment Co., Limited—\$15 per share, buyers.  
 The Bank of China & Japan & the Straits Ltd.—\$18 per share, sellers.  
 The Bank of China & Japan & the Straits Ltd.—\$18 per share, sellers.  
 The Hongkong Marine, Limited—nominal.  
 London and Pacific Petroleum Co., Limited—15, sellers.  
 The National Bank of China—20 per cent. dis. sales and sellers. Founders \$500 sellers.

**EXCHANGE.**  
 ON LONDON—Bank, T. T. 3/11  
 Bank Bills, on demand 3/15  
 Bank Bills, at 4 months sight 3/22  
 Credits at 4 months sight 3/22  
 Documentary Bills, at 4 months sight 3/22  
 ON PARIS—Bank Bills, on demand 3/11  
 Bank Bills, at 4 months sight 3/15  
 Credits at 4 months sight 3/22  
 ON SHANGHAI—Bank, T. T. 718  
 Private, 30 days sight 723

**MAILS EXPECTED.**  
**THE FRENCH MAIL.**  
 The Messagerie Maritime Co.'s steamer *Sydney*, with the French mail of the 20th ultimo, left Singapore on the 15th instant and may be expected here on the 22nd.  
**THE AMERICAN MAIL.**  
 The P. & O. S. N. Co.'s steamer *City of Peking*, with mails, &c., from San Francisco to the 21st ultimo, left Yokohama on the 11th instant and is due here on the 17th.  
**THE CANADIAN MAIL.**  
 The Canadian Pacific Steamship Co.'s steamer *Albatross* left Vancouver for Yokohama and Hongkong on the 27th ultimo.

**STEAMERS EXPECTED.**  
 The Ocean Steamship Co.'s steamer *Myrtland*, from Liverpool, left Singapore on the 11th instant and is due here on the 18th.  
 The P. & O. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Gwalior* left Singapore on the 11th instant at 2 p.m. and is due here on the 19th.  
 The Union Line steamer *Rika*, from Hamburg, left Singapore on the 11th instant and may be expected to arrive on the 19th.

The Ocean Steamship Co.'s steamer *Orestes*, from Liverpool, left Singapore on the 13th instant and is due here on the 20th.  
 The P. & O. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Nizam* left Bombay on the 9th instant and may be expected here on the 20th.

**Shipping.**  
**ARRIVALS.**  
 SURE WONGSE, German steamer, 513, J. R. VII, 15th April—Bangkok 9th April, Rice—Wieler & Co.  
 CLARA, German steamer, 675, H. Ipland, 15th April—Haliphong 11th April, Rice and General—A. R. Martz.  
 MEIKOO, Chinese steamer, 1,338, W. H. Lum, 15th April—Shanghai 11th April, General—C. M. S. N. Co.  
 CHANOSHA, British steamer, 1,463, J. E. Williams, 15th April—Whampoa 15th April, General—Butterfield & Swire.  
 AMOV, German steamer, 814, Th. Lehmann, 15th April—Whampoa 15th April, General—Stemmen & Co.  
 BANTAM, Dutch steamer, 1,530, Lodvalle, 16th April—Singapore 9th April, General—Jardine, Matheson & Co.  
 HOLME EDIN, British steamer, 1,453, J. Prentice, 16th April—Antwerp 22nd Feb., General—Order.  
 VILLARS, French cruiser, 2,300, Capt. Thounens, 16th April—Touane 13th April.  
 TRIUMPHANTE, French frigate, 8,000, Captain M. de Comulier, 16th April—Salgon 6th April.  
 INCONSTANT, French gunboat, 800, Commander de Jouglares, 16th April—Touane 13th April.  
 JOHANN, German steamer, 418, H. Blinge, 16th April—Saigon 10th April, Rice—Wieler & Co.  
 YUNG-PING, British steamer, 594, H. P. Percival, R.N.R., 16th April—Singapore 8th April, General—Russell & Co.  
 FRER, Danish steamer, 397, C. A. Strand, 16th April—Pakhol and Hoihow 15th April, General—Arnhold, Karberg & Co.

**CLEARANCES AT THE HARBOUR OFFICE.**  
*Electra*, German steamer, for Yokohama.  
*Laja*, British steamer, for Amoy, &c.  
*Formosa*, British steamer, for Swatow.  
*Michael Jensen*, German steamer, for Nagasaki.  
*Chow-chow-foo*, German steamer, for Chefoo.

**DEPARTURES.**  
 April 16, *Electra*, German str., for Yokohama.  
 April 16, *Formosa*, British str., for Swatow, &c.  
 April 16, *Fritly of Nansen*, Norwegian str., for Swatow, &c.  
 April 16, *General Warden*, German steamer, for Nagasaki, &c.  
 April 16, *Freuden*, German str., for Shanghai.  
 April 16, *Laja*, British str., for Amoy, &c.  
 April 16, *Michael Jensen*, German steamer, for Nagasaki, &c.  
 April 16, *Malwa*, British str., for Singapore, &c.

**PASSENGERS—ARRIVED.**  
 Per *Sure Wongse*, str., from Bangkok—30 Chinese.  
 Per *Meikoo*, str., from Shanghai—26 Chinese.  
 Per *Bantam*, str., from Singapore—77 Chinese.  
 Per *Frede*, str., from Pakhol, &c.—Mr. and Mrs. Schöth, and 80 Chinese.

**REPORTS.**  
 The German steamer *Sure Wongse* reports that she left Bangkok on the 9th instant. Had fair weather throughout. From Cape Padaran had fresh south-east winds.  
 The Chinese steamer *Meikoo* reports that she left Shanghai on the 11th instant. Had strong south wind and high sea with fine weather; to port had thick fog.

**Post Office.**  
 A MAIL WILL CLOSE  
 For Chefoo and Newchwang—Per *Chow-chow-foo* to-morrow, the 17th instant, at 11.30 A.M.  
 For Nagasaki and Kobe—Per *Guthrie* to-morrow, the 17th instant, at 11.30 A.M.  
 For Swatow, Amoy, and Singapore—Per *Silken* to-morrow, the 17th instant, at 1.30 P.M.  
 For Nagasaki, Kobe, and Yokohama—Per *Verona* to-morrow, the 17th instant, at 5.00 P.M.  
 For Haliphong—Per *Clara* to-morrow, the 17th instant, at 5.00 P.M.

**SHIPPING IN HONGKONG.**  
**STEAMERS.**  
 ABYSSINIA, British steamer, 2,148, J. C. Williamson, R.N.R., 1st April—Salgon 27th March, Rice—Kung Yuen.  
 AMIGO, German steamer, 771, T. Bruhn, 9th April—Salgon 4th April, Rice and Paddy—Wieler & Co.  
 BENALDER, British steamer, 1,204, McIntosh, 13th April—Salgon 8th April, Rice—Gibb, Livingston & Co.  
 BENOLUE, British steamer, 1,198, Farquhar, 13th April—London and Feb. and Singapore 2nd April, General—Gibb, Livingston & Co.  
 BENLOU, British steamer, 1,481, J. H. Clark, 11th April—Salgon 7th April, General—Gibb, Livingston & Co.  
 CHOW-CHOW-FOO, German steamer, 795, Clausen, 2nd April—Salgon 28th March, Rice—Melchers & Co.  
 DELTA, French steamer, 717, Abhal, 14th April—Haliphong 10th April, General—Messageries Maritimes.  
 FAME, British steamer, 117, Lieut. Wm. G. FAME, R.N.R.—Hongkong Government tender.  
 GUTHRIE, British steamer, 1,493, N. Shannon, 12th April—Sydney 21st March, Moreton Bay 23rd, Keppel Bay 25th, Townsville 25th, Cooktown 28th, Thursday Island 30th, and Port Darwin 2nd April, General—Russell & Co.  
 MARIA TERESA, Austro-Hungarian steamer, 1,100, R. Deperis, 13th April—Trieste 15th Feb., Bombay 24th March, and Singapore 27th April, General—D. Sassoon, Sons & Co.  
 MARTHA, German steamer, 1,580, Abrahams, 14th April—Shanghai and Wuhu, 8th April, Rice—Tong Tai Cheong & Co.  
 MONOKUT, British steamer, 859, G. Anderson, 8th April—Portland (Oregon), 6th March, Flou—Adams, Bell & Co.  
 NANNAN, British steamer, 805, J. Blackburne, 14th April—Bangkok 6th April, Rice—Hop Hing Hong.  
 PARKER, British steamer, 2,015, John Paxton, R.N.R., 15th April—Salgon 11th April, General—Adams, Bell & Co.  
 SINGAN, British str., 1,056, Price, 12th April—Whampoa 12th April, General—Butterfield & Swire.  
 SISHAN, British steamer, 845, E. F. Stovell, 13th April—Salgon 9th April, Rice, Paddy and Fish—Chinese.  
 SOMERSET PERE NANO, British steamer, 1,057, R. Jones, 14th April—Bangkok 8th April, Rice—Yuen Fat Hong.  
 TAIKANG, British steamer, 1,505, H. Hogg, 15th April—Wuhu 10th April, Rice—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

**HONGKONG—STAMERS.**  
**Continued.**  
 THALES, British steamer, 820, Hunter, 15th April—Taiwan 10th April, Amoy 11th, Swatow 12th, General—D. Lapelle & Co.  
 THAMCE AV, Chinese steamer, 356, Wong Ling Sing, 15th Dec.—Haliphong 27th Dec., Ballast—Chinese.  
 VERONA, British steamer, 1,876, F. H. Seymour, 13th April—Yokohama 4th April, Mails and General—F. & O. S. N. Co.

**SAILING VESSELS.**  
 ADOLPH OBRIG, American bark, 1,375, F. Carlston, 5th March—New York 31st August, Kerosene Oil—Reuter, Brockmann & Co.  
 DOROTHEA, German bark, 620, H. F. Moeller, 25th March—Hamburg 20th Oct., General—Stemmen & Co.  
 ERLEKONTO, Chinese bark, 457, Optum Examination 'hulk, Stonecutters' Island—Chinese Customs.  
 GREAT ADMIRAL, American ship, 1,497, J. F. Rowell, 11th March—Newcastle, N.S.W., 19th January, Coal—Order.  
 HEDINICH, German bark, 923, F. H. Bannan, 22nd Feb.—Hamburg 20th Sept., General—Canalists & Co.  
 JAPAN, Peruvian bark, 398, M. Janila, 17th Nov.—Callao (Peru) 30th August, General—Gonzales & Co.  
 JENNY, American schooner, 47, Baude, 9th Jan.—Yap 26th December, Beche-de-mer—Master.  
 PENNAW, British bark, 720, John Lookay, 18th Feb.—Camague (Philippines), 7th Feb., Timber—Gibb, Livingston & Co.  
 PREHOD, British bark, 450, C. Hansen, 7th April—Somo, 12th March, Rattan—Russell & Co.  
 ORIENT, German bark, 461, H. R. Gontard, 6th April—Singapore 10th Feb., Timber—Wieler & Co.  
 SARA MERKES, Peruvian schooner, 245, A. Mundaliga, 4th July—Salgon 27th June, Rice—Captain.  
 WM. LE LACHUR, British bark, 573, W. Auld, 7th March—Honolulu 21st January, Iron, Copper, &c.—Wing Wo Chan & Co.

**Intimations.**  
**HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.**  
**HONGKONG DERBY, 1892.**  
 THE WEIGHTS for the above RACE will be weight for inches, not 10st. 10lb. as heretofore.  
 E. H. GORE-BOOTH, Clerk of the Course.  
 Hongkong, 17th March, 1891. [443]

**W. S. MARTEN,**  
**ARTISTIC DECORATOR,**  
 2, DUDDLE STREET,  
 HONGKONG.  
 Hongkong, 6th April, 1890. [2]

**HONGKONG TIMBER YARD, WANCHAI.**  
**OREGON PINE SPARS AND LUMBER**  
 Always on Hand.  
 L. MALLORY.  
 Hongkong 24th June 1891. [95]

**JOHN AMBROSE CLARKE,**  
 Teacher of Officers and Engineers,  
 No. 75, WYNDHAM STREET,  
 Opposite Central Police Station.

**CANDIDATES prepared for the MARINE BOARD EXAMINATIONS.**  
 Author of the "NEW NAVIGATION,"  
 And an "Arithmetic" for Engineers, &c.,  
 Hongkong, 7th February, 1891. [246]

**NOTICE.**  
 THE undersigned undertakes to produce First Class Photographs. Gentlemen wishing to patronize may have PROOFS OF PROOFS sent to them for approval, and if not satisfied, no charge will be made.  
 Cabinets (enamelled) \$5 a dozen.  
 Cartes de Visite do. 2  
 PUN WOO, PHOTOGRAPHER,  
 84, Queen's Road Central,  
 (Top Floor of Teen Sing Bookbinders),  
 Hongkong, 17th February, 1891. [298]

**G. FALCONER & CO.**  
**WATCH AND CHRONOMETER MANUFACTURERS AND JEWELLERS.**  
**NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS, CHARTS AND BOOKS.**  
 No. 48, Queen's Road Central. [972]

**THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY COMPANY, LIMITED.**  
**SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL \$5,000,000.**  
**PAID UP CAPITAL 1,250,000.**  
**RESERVE FUND 1,250,000.**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS.**  
 Hon. J. J. KESWICK, Chairman.  
 Hon. C. P. CHATER, Vice-Chairman.  
 LEE SING, Esq.  
 S. C. MICHAELSEN, Esq.  
 S. C. MOORE, Esq.  
 G. E. NOBLE, Esq.  
 POON PONG, Esq.  
 D. B. SASSOON, Esq.

**BANKERS.**  
**THE HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.**  
**MONEY advanced on Mortgage, on Land, and Buildings.**  
 Properties purchased and sold.  
 Estates Managed and all kinds of Agency and Commission business relating to land, etc., conducted.  
 Full particulars can be obtained at the Company's Office, No. 5, Queen's Road Central.  
 A. SHELTON HOOVER, Secretary.  
 Victoria Buildings, Hongkong and New York. [5]

**J. & R. HARVEY & CO.**  
**DUNDEE DISTILLERY, GLASGOW.**  
 Established 1770.

**SCOTCH WHISKIES.**  
 Finest Pure Malt Scotch Whisky.  
 O.H.M. Old Highland Malt Whisky.  
 F.O.S. Fine Old Scotch Whisky.  
 V.O.S. Very Old Scotch Whisky.

**MESSRS. HARVEY & Co.'s Pure Malt Whiskies** have for over fifty years commanded the largest sale in the English Market OF ANY WHISKY made in Scotland, and being thoroughly matured in Sherry Wood are very mild and mellow, and are confidently recommended where a Pure "Wholesome Spirit" is desired.  
 Over one million Gallons produced annually.  
 For Prices and Samples, apply to  
 G. RENNIE STEWART,  
 12, AGUE STREET, HONGKONG.  
 Sole Agent for China and Japan.  
 Hongkong, 28th August, 1890. [369]

**Intimations.**  
**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF HONGKONG.**  
**PROBATE JURISDICTION.**  
 In the matter of the Estate of JOHN HENRY SMITH, late of Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong, Storekeeper, deceased.  
**NOTICE** is hereby given that the Honourable the Chief Justice having, in virtue of Section 3 of Ordinance No. 9 of 1870, made an Order limiting to the 9th August, 1891, the time for sending in claims against the said Estate.  
 All Creditors are hereby required to send in their claims to the undersigned before the said date and all persons indebted to the said Estate are requested to make immediate payment.  
 Dated this 14th day of April, 1891.  
**WOTTON & DEACON,**  
 Solicitors for the Executors,  
 35, Queen's Road, Hongkong. [582]

**HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.**  
**A COMPETITION for the Short Range HANDICAP CHALLENGE CUP and SPOONS**, will be held on SATURDAY next, the 18th instant, commencing at 3.15 P.M. Range 500 and 600 yards; usual conditions.  
 A Launch will leave the P. & O. Pier at 2.45 P.M. to convey competitors.  
**FRANK COLLINS,**  
 Hon. Secretary.  
 Hongkong, 14th April, 1891. [65]

**Dr. Knorr's ANTIPYRINE.**  
 (Dose for Adults 15 to 25 grains 4 times a day.)  
 IS the most approved and most efficacious remedy in cases of HEADACHE, MIGRAINE, NEURALGIA, RHEUMATISM, FEVER, TYPHUS, ERYSIPELAS, HOOPING-COUGH, and many other complaints. It is also the very best Antiseptic. Highly recommended by the medical Faculty. To be had from every reputable Chemist and Druggist. Ask for DR. KNORR'S ANTIPYRINE! Each Tin bears the inventor's signature, "Dr. KNORR" in red letters.  
 Supplies constantly on hand at the China Export, Import, and Bank Co.—Sole Agents for China. Beware of spurious imitations! Hongkong, 20th May, 1890. [422]

**NOTICE.**  
**STATUTORY NOTICE TO CREDITORS.**  
 IN THE HIGH COURT OF SANDAKAN.  
 IN ITS PROBATE JURISDICTION.  
 In the Will and Estate of CHARLES WALTER FLINT, of Sandakan, Deceased.  
**NOTICE** is hereby given that all Creditors and other persons having any claims against the Estate of CHARLES WALTER FLINT, deceased, late of Sandakan, Merchant, Probate of whose Will has been granted by the High Court of Sandakan, to H. B. DUNLOP of Sandakan, Executor appointed by the Will of the said deceased, are hereby required to send in particulars of such claims to the said undersigned, on or before the Thirty-first day of October, 1891. And Notice is hereby given that after such date the said Executor will proceed to distribute the assets of the said deceased among the parties entitled thereto having regard only to the claims of which he shall then have had notice.  
 Dated this First day of November, 1890.  
 F. R. J. MARCUS, Registrar.  
 Receiver for the said Executor.  
 High Court, Sandakan. [163]

**NOTICE.**  
**JEY'S SANITARY COMPOUNDS COMPANY, LIMITED.**  
**JEY'S WOOD PRESERVER OR ANTISEPTIC PAINT.**  
 THE undersigned have this day been appointed SOLE AGENTS for the sale of these PERFECT DISINFECTANTS, and are prepared to supply quantities to suit purchasers, at Wholesale Prices. Extra Special terms Shipping and large Orders.  
 Sir ROBERT RAWLINSON, C.B., C.E., Chief Sanitary Engineer, Local Government Board, London, says:  
 "It is the best Disinfectant in use."  
**W. G. HUMPHREYS & Co.,**  
 Bank Buildings.  
 Hongkong, 20th June 1890. [172]

**SHANGHAI RACES.**  
**THE MESSAGERIES MARITIMES CO.**  
**AND THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAMSHIP NAVIGATION CO.**  
**WILL ISSUE RETURN TICKETS to SHANGHAI** by their steamers leaving on or about the 8th, 14th, and 22nd instant, available for return by either Line and allowing of one month's stay at Shanghai.  
**FARES—First Saloon \$50.**  
**Second 40.**  
 Hongkong, 6th April, 1891. [534]

**NOTICE.**  
**GRIFFITH'S PHOTOGRAPHIC ROOMS**  
 1, Ice House Road are suitably lighted to produce all styles of Portraits in any weather.  
**CABINETS from \$5 a dozen.**  
**CARTES DE VISITE from \$3 a dozen.**  
**LIFE SIZED BUSTS in Colour, or Black & White.**  
**IVORY MINIATURES, &c., &c.**  
**NEW VIEWS OF HONGKONG and the Coast Ports are always ready.**  
 Hongkong, 24th September, 1890. [138]

**DENTISTRY.**  
**FIRST CLASS WORKMANSHIP AND MODERATE FEES.**  
**M. R. WONG TAI-FONG,**  
 Surgeon Dentist.  
 (Formerly attended Appleton, and latterly assistant to Dr. DOUGLAS).  
**HAS REMOVED**  
**THE MARINE HOUSE,**  
 QUEEN'S ROAD  
 (next to the Telegraph Companies).  
**CONSULTATION FREE.**  
 Hongkong, 7th March, 1891. [391]

**Hotels.**  
**STAG HOTEL,**  
 QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, HONGKONG.  
 THIS HOTEL, situated in the most Central part of Hongkong, has recently been refitted, and has excellent accommodation for visitors.  
 The Table is supplied with every delicacy of the Season.  
**WINE, LIQUORS, &c.** of the very best quality only.  
**Charges Moderate.**  
**HING LEE & Co.,**  
 Proprietors.  
 Hongkong, 14th April, 1891. [578]

**THE SHAMEN HOTEL.**  
**BRITISH CONCESSION, CANTON.**  
 THIS FIRST CLASS HOTEL, admirably situated within a few minutes walk of the River Steamer Wharves, is now open to receive Visitors.  
 The Bed-rooms are cool, airy and comfortably furnished, and the spacious Dining Room, Sitting Room, and accommodation generally will be found equal to the best Hotels in the Far East.  
 The Table d'Hôte is supplied with every luxury in season, and the cuisine is in experienced hands.  
 Wines, Spirits, Malt Liquors, etc., of the best quality only.  
**A. F. DO ROZARIO,**  
 Manager.  
 Hongkong, 4th November, 1890. [1047]

**PEAK HOTEL,**  
 VICTORIA GAP, PEAK,  
 Adjoining the Tramway Terminus.  
 THE most beautiful position in the environs of Hongkong situated 1,250 feet above sea level, commanding magnificent views of the City and Harbour of Victoria, the mainland of China and neighbouring islands.  
 Cool Southern breezes in Summer with perfect protection from N.E. Winds of Winter.  
 The best accommodation of Visitors with every comfort, convenience and attention.  
 The Cuisine is under the best supervision and every luxury obtainable is supplied.  
**WINE, &c.** the best. Brands and finest qualities only are kept.  
**TERMS MODERATE.**  
 Telephone No. 29.  
**PEAK HOTEL & TRADING Co., Ltd.,**  
 Proprietors.  
 Hongkong, 13th February, 1891. [277]

**THE BOA VISTA.**  
**BISHOP'S BAY, MACAO.**  
 THIS House, situated on the sea shore in one of the best and healthiest parts of Macao, and commanding an admirable view facing the South, was OPENED as a HOTEL on the 1st July.  
 Every comfort will be provided for visitors, with excellent cuisine and choice Wines.  
 Hot, Cold, Shower and Sea Water Baths.  
 Large and well ventilated Dining, Billiard, and Reading Rooms, and well supplied Bar.  
 A small dairy is attached to the premises.  
**MRS. MARIA B. DOS REMEDIOS,**  
 Proprietress.

**To be Let.**  
**THE KOWLOON LAND AND BUILDING COMPANY, LIMITED.**  
**TO LET,**  
**KNUTSRIED TERRACE, KOWLOON.**  
**HOUSES with 5 ROOMS**, including Bath-rooms, Tennis Courts. Good view and Healthy situation. Rent and Taxes \$32 a month.  
 Apply to  
**THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY Co., Ltd.**  
 Hongkong, 24th March 1891. [482]

**TO LET,**  
 With Immediate Possession.  
 No. 17, PRAYA CENTRAL.  
**OFFICES—above Messrs. Douglas, Laprak & Co.'s Premises.**  
 Apply to  
**THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY Co., Ltd.**  
 Hongkong, 16th December, 1890. [44]

**TO LET,**  
 Possession on 1st April next.  
**HOUSE No. 18, ELGIN STREET.**  
 For particulars, apply to  
**LOUIS KIRCHMANN,**  
 No. 4, Ladder Street Terrace.  
 Hongkong, 26th February, 1891. [348]

**TO BE LET.**  
**NO. 10, SEYMOUR TERRACE.**  
 Apply to  
**HERCULES J. SCOTT.**  
 Hongkong, 3rd February, 1891. [227]

**TO LET.**  
**NOS. 25 & 27, ELGIN STREET,** behind the Old Union Church.  
 Apply to  
**ACHEE & Co.**  
 Hongkong, 25th February, 1891. [40]

**TO LET.**  
**NOS. 9 & 11, SEYMOUR TERRACE.**  
**ROOMS in College Chambers**  
**NO. 4, OLD BAILEY STREET.**  
**OFFICES and CHAMBERS in Connaught House,** Queen's Road Central.  
**OFFICES in Victoria Buildings,** No. 2, PEDDER'S HILL.  
 Apply to  
**DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.**  
 Hongkong, 10th April, 1891. [19]

**TO BE LET SHORTLY.**  
**A ROOMED HOUSE.**  
 Apply to  
**THE SECRETARY,**  
 Humphreys Estate & Finance Co., Ltd.  
**TO BE LET OR SOLD.**  
 On favorable terms, with Immediate Possession.  
**EIGHT HOUSES at "Mountain View,"** Peak District, near Plunkett's Gap.  
 If sold, part of the Purchase money can remain on Mortgage.  
 Apply to  
**JOHN A. JUFF.**  
 38 & 40, Queen's Road Central, Hongkong, 10th April, 1891. [64]

**For Sale.**  
**INTIMATION.**  
**F. Blackhead & Co.,**  
**SHIP-CHANDLERS, SAIL-MAKERS,**  
**AND**  
**PROVISION MERCHANTS,**  
**NAVY CONTRACTORS,**  
**AND**  
**GENERAL COMMISSION AGENTS.**  
 No. 11, PRAYA CENTRAL.  
 (Opposite Pedder's Wharf).  
**SOLE AGENTS**  
**for**  
**RAHTJEN'S**  
**GENUINE**  
**COMPOSITION**  
**FOR**  
**THE BOTTOMS OF IRON SHIPS.**  
**HARTMANN'S GREY PAINT**, specially manufactured for coating the inside of STEEL SHIPS.  
**SPECIALY SELECTED,**  
**EX. PRIME PORK and BEEF in Barrels.**  
**Also**  
**AMERICAN PRIME SUGAR-CURED HAMS and BACON.**  
**CHR. MOTZ & Co., BORDEAUX CLARET.**  
**CEMENT** from the celebrated Factory of Hemimoor.  
**FLensburg STOCK BEER,**  
**ENGINEERS' and BLACKSMITHS' MACHINERY and TOOLS.**  
**EVERY KIND OF SHIP'S STORES and REQUISITES ALWAYS IN STOCK**  
**AT**  
**REASONABLE PRICES.**  
**ALL KINDS OF COALS**  
 SUPPLIED AT THE SHORTEST NOTICE.  
 Hongkong, 25th March 1891. [172]

**JUST ARRIVED, FOR SALE.**  
**THE New Stern Winder and Enamelled Dial WATERBURY WATCH.**  
 SERIES I.—For Gentlemen, or large size.  
 SERIES L.—For Ladies, or small size.  
 Windless less than a dozen turns; Jeweled. Dust-proof. Keyless, with all the latest improvements. A perfect and unrivalled timekeeper; reliable, durable and accurate, and also  
 SERIES E.—The "Good old favorite." The best form of the original Waterbury: offered at the reduced price of \$8.70 each.  
 Orders from Out-ports to be accompanied by remittance for cost.  
**THE MITSUBI BISSAN KAISHA,**  
 Sole Agents in Japan, China, Corea, Hongkong & Macao.  
 No. 10, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.  
 Hongkong, 26th February, 1890. [1190]

**CHS. J. GAUPP & CO.**  
**CHRONOMETER, WATCH, and CLOCK-MAKERS, JEWELLERS, SILVER-SMITHS, and OPTICIANS.**  
**CHARTS and BOOKS.**  
 Sole Agents for Louis Audemars' Watches; awarded the highest Prize at every Exhibition; and for Votier's and Sohn's CELEBRATED OPERA GLASSES. MARINE GLASSES and SPYGLASSES. Wm. R. O'Brien & Sons' Patent CARBOLINUM AVENARIUS, (REGISTERED).  
**AN ANTISEPTIC PAINT** for the Preservation of Wood, Walls, Ropes and Ship's Tackle. May be applied to Beams, Floors, Walls, ceilings, Wooden Ornament, Eaves, Roofs, Wooden Sheds, Farmers' and Gardeners' implements, Carts, Posts, Fences, Stables, Gates, Bridges, Boats, and all Timber underground. Effectually excludes all dampness from walls painted with it and entirely prevents the crumbling away and decay of both stone and bricks. White ants do not touch wood painted with Carbolineum Avenarius.  
 Used during the last 14 years with the utmost success, as proved by numerous Testimonials from living authorities.  
 Sold in casks of about 450 lbs. net. Price 5 cents per lb.  
 For further particulars apply to  
**SCHAELE & Co.,**  
 Sole Agents,  
 No. 16, Stanley Street.  
 Hongkong, 2nd December, 1890. [44]

**FOX SALE.**  
**"MONTIARA"**  
 Length.....75 feet.  
 Beam.....18 "  
 Depth of hold.....71 "  
 Registered tonnage.....75 tons.  
 (Owing to recent alterations the carrying capacity of the *Montiara* has been increased to about 120 tons dead weight.)  
 The *Montiara* was built in Singapore, and is most solidly constructed of teak throughout, with iron-wood frames. She has recently been thoroughly overhauled under experienced European superintendence, fastened throughout with 7 inch galvanized spikes, and newly re-coppered. She is lashed-rigged with the best canvas sails. Draft of water 7 feet.  
 For further particulars apply to  
**R. F. ASHER-SMITH,**  
 6, Pedder's Hill.  
 Hongkong, 6th April, 1891. [33]

**FOR SALE.**  
**THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY, Published** at the Office of the *Hongkong Telegraph*, is the best and most complete work of the kind ever published in the FAR EAST. The Directory contains all the latest and most reliable information concerning China, Japan and all the other Countries in the East.  
**PRICE**.....\$3.00  
 To be obtained from all Booksellers in China and Japan.  
 Hongkong, 23rd March, 1891.  
 Edited and Published by ROBERT FRASER-SMITH, 6, & Pedder's Hill, & the City of Victoria, Hongkong.



# The Hongkong Telegraph.

No. 2819.

THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 1891.

SIX DOLLARS PER QUARTER

## The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 1891.

### LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE U. S. S. *Palas* arrived at Nagasaki, and the *Monocacy* at Yokohama, on the 2nd inst. The *Alliance* was then expected to leave the latter port shortly for Chemulpo.

MR. H. KOESCH assumed charge of the Statistical Department of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs on the 2nd inst. *vice* Mr. E. McKean, who goes home on leave of absence.

MR. F. W. MALLARD, hon. treasurer of the All-Memorial Hospital, begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the funds of the hospital:—H. Z. Junt, Esq., \$25; Lum Ping Won, \$3.

WE understand that the arrangements for commencing work on the Kowloon-Canton railway are approaching completion. Mr. I. Sampson, being first on the list for the post of superintendent-in-charge.

THE eight-armed race between the Club and the Army and Navy, arranged to take place on the 6th inst., fell through owing to the Services being unable to get a crew together. There have been some ill-natured comments, as usual in such cases.

WE learn that at the present time there is a total dearth of sailors in the Colony—a state of things that has not been known to exist for many years. The American ship *Great Admiral* has been delayed for some days owing to the captain's inability to complete his crew.

COLONEL JOHN G. LEE, late Military Instructor of the Royal Korean Army, and Captain A. D'Amade, military attaché to the French Legation in Seoul (Korea), were amongst the passengers who left here for Europe by the Messageries Maritimes steamer *Salasia* on noon on the 8th inst.

H.M.S. *Tanar* left on the 11th inst. for England, taking home the paid-off crews of H.M.S. *Imperieuse*, *Albatross*, and *Porpoise*. As she made her way through the man-of-war anchorage, the crews of the various other ships manned their yards and cheered their departing comrades heartily.

CONSEQUENT on the retirement of Inspector Perry from the Hongkong Police Force, the following promotions have been made:—3rd class Inspector Stanton to be 2nd class Inspector, *vice* Inspector Perry; Acting Inspector Butler to be 3rd class Inspector; Sergeant Mann to be Acting Inspector.

THE omission of a word frequently upsets the symmetry of a sentence and renders its meaning obscure. So it was in a para. in our issue of the 7th inst. in which Sir James Russell was described as "of Opium notoriety." Of course it should have read Opium Convention notoriety, that cowardly surrender of Hongkong's rights which obtained for Mr. Russell his C.M.G. ship, and made this colony an appanage of the Chinese Customs.

THE British gun-vessel *Rattler* arrived at Chinkiang on the night of the 2nd inst. The German frigate *Leipzig* got ashore yesterday week between the Wooning light-house and the Wooning Spit Buoy, and was towed off by the *Fukien*. The German gunboat *Wey* also got off Farnham's lower dock and did not get off till next morning. Since then the *Leipzig*, *Alexandria* and *Sophia* proceeded to Nanking.

At the meeting of the Punjom Company on the 8th inst. the reporters were desired to give the concern "bold (and gratuitous) advertisement" to the effect that some very comforting reports had been received from the prospectors, Mr. Blumey, and could be seen by the shareholders. A Singapore correspondent reports that the water which had over-powered the pumps at falls last month has again been mastered by the addition of more boiler power to the engine, and the 100 ft. level was dry on the 14th, when work was to be recommenced to supply quays for milling.

THE *Japan Gazette* is given to understand that several prominent capitalists have been compelled to cut off the electric light in their business houses which has been installed by Japanese, insurance having been refused on account of the defective nature of the installation. Whilst on the subject we may state that the system in lighting in Hongkong promises to be even more satisfactory shortly, as the strength of the current will be greatly increased when the erection of a few more lamps justifies the additional use of the reserve dynamo.

THE *Carewille* doesn't own all the jewelry in the Far East. At the Central Station on the 25th inst. Police Constable James was presented with a gold chain and locket on the eve of his retirement from the Hongkong Police Force, after ten years' service. Inspector Stanton, in making the presentation, said that it was a mark of the esteem in which Mr. James was held by his brethren. It was not many members who lived to retire on a pension. Mr. James being the only one left of twelve men who came to the Colony ten years ago. Mr. James briefly returned thanks for their kind presentation and good wishes in appropriate terms.

IT may comfort the official members of the Legislative Council to know what our sister colony thinks of their attitude in respect to the Military Contribution. The *Singapore Free Press* says that they (the Hongkong officials) have been "servile," and the whole pack of them have gone submissively to heel at the crack of the Governor's whip. Our contemporary adds other little epithets, such as "cowering harem," which means "betrayers of the cause," but we can pass them. "Servile" is good, though we thank those, colleagues, for the word. Henceforth shall the C.S. be known as the "Servile Service."

ONE day recently while H.E. Fu Kun, a member of the T'ung-shi Yamen, was on his way to the Imperial Palace for audience on early morning, he saw several soldiers, characters on the top of the wall of the Imperial city, and availing that they were thieves, he gave orders that they should be arrested. The police were soon upon the spot, but the interlopers had gone to parts unknown; the night after a gang of armed robbers entered H.E. Fu Kun's private residence and bound H.E. and pointing a loaded gun at his face told him to recognize their faces with a bow. He did not intend to do this, and a man of the gang looted the premises, and upon a given signal left the place. Some of the stolen property has been recovered from several of the gangways; but no arrests have been made as yet.

THE *Choya Shimbun* of the 26th ultimo publishes a telegram from its Chemulpo correspondent to the effect that the Russian Government has addressed a despatch to the Korean Government relative to the objectionable practice of Japanese, Chinese and American men-of-war mooring in the inside harbour at Chemulpo, which should, the Japanese paper considers, be reserved for the convenience of merchant vessels only.

SIR RICHARD REYNOLDS, late Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of China and Japan, and Mr. Fielding Clarke, our Peking Judge, were amongst the passengers by the French mail steamer *Salasia*, which sailed hence for Europe at noon on the 8th inst. The Attorney-General, Mr. W. M. Goodman; Mr. Clarke's *locum tenens*, Mr. E. J. Ackroyd; and a large number of legal and other lights went off during the forenoon to bid the *days of the Far Eastern Bar bon voyage*.

THE Tongan pirates have a considerable weakness for the gentler sex—their motto is *Cherchez la femme*. A band of them were surprised by Chinese troops the other day whilst escorting a batch of sixty-seven native women over the Chinese frontier, and eight of the kidnappers were killed. The Hanai papers allege that the Chinese authorities connive at the wholesale capture of native women, to say nothing of supplying the numerous pirate bands with arms, opium, money, &c. Quite likely.

MESSRS. BUNDIN & Co.'s circular, dated Newchwang, 28th February, says:—Imports.—Drills, sheetings, shirtings, T-cloths, cotton yarn, raw cotton, sugar, matches, horse-shoes, bar and rod iron, are in small stock, and it is likely that first arrivals will meet with a ready sale. Exports.—Stocks of bean-oil amount to 250,000 piculs; of grain to about 1,000,000 piculs, of beans to about 200,000 piculs. Prices are moderate and unlikely to advance much, as it is now certain that last autumn's crops were even larger than those of 1890.

IF it were not too late to boom up Borneo we might draw the attention of a few friends at Court (of Directors) to the fact that advices from Holland point to a good year for several of the tobacco-growing companies in doing business in the East. The dividends for the year are expected to reach the following figures:—Arendburg, 125 per cent.; Dell Co., 100 per cent.; Dell Batisia Co., 62 per cent., &c. But now that matters in Dell are becoming better known in Holland, the rage for starting new companies in that Settlement has calmed down, and speculators with land concessions in their pockets find scant encouragement. Capitalists prefer to wait and see how the next crops turn out, before sinking any more money in the East Coast of Sumatra.

SAYS THE *N. C. Daily News*:—At about 114 miles from Shanghai up the Yangtze there is a cut-off extending from opposite Fiehsuore Light to a little above Siniemue Creek. This cut-off appears in the charts, but it is stated on the ground that there are rocks in it. Recently Mr. G. McEwan instructed Mr. Mac to survey the locality and he has done so, and on the last trip to the river the *Suez*, which was drawing 24 feet, went through it and, going slow, gained an hour on the run to Chinkiang. The *Suez* is thus the first vessel to go through the Shanyou Cut-off. Steamers will not require to use it coming down river, but going up they will get out of the current, saving thus a couple of hours, and will be able to reach Chinkiang in time to save their taking out night permits.

A CURIOUS case was heard by the Magistrate at Peking the other day. An Indian watchman was prosecuted by a tramway inspector for defamation of character, which (the *Gazette* says) was alleged to consist in an accusation made by the defendant that the prosecutor, who is a high caste Brahmin, had been in the habit of taking his meals in his employer's house. In consequence of this, it was stated for the prosecution that one Jemal Tooleman, a shopkeeper in Beach Street, would not permit the prosecutor to help himself to ten shillings' worth of goods in his shop, as he had been accustomed to do before; in short he was treated as an outcast. Mr. Gurney, who appeared for the defendant, admitted that his client had made the accusation, but said it was true. After hearing the evidence on both sides, Mr. Watson found the defendant guilty of the charge, and sentenced him to pay a fine of \$100 or, in default of payment, to undergo three months' imprisonment.

IF we may venture for once to put our faith in prices, there was some significance in the *Carewille*'s movements whilst at Canton. Reuters wired on the 30th ult. that the Russian ambassador at Paris had received the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honor (which we wouldn't swap our own Order of Stedgors for) in return for the despatch by the *Czar* to President Carnot of the Order of St. Andrew. That looks as though France and Russia were willing to use the same small-talk, especially when we hear that the *Carewille*'s suite took tea at the French Consulate, and that M. Imbault-Huad died with His Highness's office. The fate of nations may have been decided over that cup of coffee—perhaps the downfall of perdition. Albion was arranged over the candle-and-vodka banquet. "Observer" writes to-day (6th inst.) that at 4.45 yesterday morning he witnessed a unique phenomenon—the *Twining Star* and another star shining brightly in the sky, and not another to be seen in the clear black sky. He says it means war, but we can't follow him so far unless he sends an affidavit along declaring that the second star belonged to Ursa Major.

THE "Articulate Needs of China" according to the Chinese people of Mr. C. D. Tenney of Tennessee are:

- 1.—Schools of modern science should be established all over the Empire.
  - 2.—Civil degrees should be given for proficiency in modern sciences, and not merely for clever essay writing.
  - 3.—Military officers should be educated men.
  - 4.—Buddhism should be suppressed, and the temples turned into schools.
  - 5.—The educated and foot-binding should be abolished, so that they may become both mentally and physically fit for maternity.
  - 6.—Rail-roads should be extended.
  - 7.—The Emperor should be educated in a foreign language.
  - 8.—The Emperor should travel about the country, and see for himself the condition of affairs.
  - 9.—China should have a parliament where questions of public policy might be openly discussed.
  - 10.—Chinese law should be modified to bring it into harmony with Western codes.
- These views says Mr. Tenney, vary in value, but the fact that such ideas are entertained by the rising generation speaks well for the future, and is only a question of time when the young blood of China will drive the conservative party off the wall.

H.M.S. *Rattler* left Shanghai for Hankow on the 2nd inst., and is expected to be absent about five weeks.

"SHAKESPEARE" is said by theatrical managers (excepting always our talented visitor Mr. Miln) to spell "s-u-n." Similarly "Punjom" is pronounced "m-a-d-i-n-e-s-s." If the stock quotations for the last couple of years are anything to go by, it is native to the soil, it seems—maybe Dr. Canille could find the particular *baillus* which is in blame—for a correspondent of the *Singapore Free Press* writes that "Inche Wan Finger, the son of the mad Toh Hadji who was at Karsa Lido about two years ago, has also become afflicted with the family mania, and commenced by killing his wife. A panic amongst the Malays was the consequence in the northern part of the Punjom concession; this has since subsided."

IT has always seemed to us to be an act savouring of folly, says the *Japan Mail*, for the Government at Hongkong to have broken up their mint, and sold the coinage presses and other machinery to the Japanese. Plenty of work could have surely been found for it, whilst if the profit had made any sort of approximation to what the Government annually reaps here, it would have realised an appreciable amount of additional revenue. A sum of two or three hundred thousand yen per annum over the mint's expenses is secured by the working of the mint as Osaka, which turns out coins of a most creditable character. Compare a silver yen, for instance, with that most slovenly minted and heartily looking coin, the Mexican dollar, and the contrast is entirely favorable to Japan, and though no foreigners are now employed, yet so well schooled were the employees of the Mint by their foreign instructors, that in point of execution and general finish, the coinage of Japan continues a credit to the country.

ACCORDING to the native papers Fu-ming and Lok-kur districts, Yunnan Province, have been the scene of a lively fight between the Imperial troops and the secret society. The preliminary to the following effect:—That on the 17th of last month the Fu-ming District Magistrate had gone to another place to try and investigate a murder case of importance, so a noted leader, Wong-tze-yung, and some secret society men, gathered a great many of them together and marched upon the Fu-ming-yuen, and having over-powered the Police, officials, and in fact killed the chief of the police, the society men, as they have been termed rebels, went in a body to the Magistrate's yamen and demolished it; first having taken all the treasure and valuables, then the rebels retreated to another place with the same intent, but before they had time to do so, the commander of the province came down upon the marauders with a strong Government force and defeated the rebels. The leader Wong-tze-yung, in conjunction with another rebel leader, out-fought the Imperialists and fell upon another town, but that place was strongly defended, so the rebels suffered a second check. Then they went to Lok-kur-yuen and there killed the Magistrate and every one who opposed them. The Imperial soldiers who went in not having found the rebels in the latter place and again gave them battle. During the fight the leader Wong-tze-yung was killed and also another leader, but the Government troops managed to take the leader's brother, Wong-tze-fu, a captive, and a great many were slaughtered by the soldiers. The rest of the rebels fled to all parts in haste. On both sides the killed and wounded were considerable. Within three days after the disturbance the place was restored to quietness, and an Imperial Decree has been issued to reward those who rendered such aid as to merit promotion. Rewards are offered for the capture of any of the rebels who have escaped.

### MEETING OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on the 10th inst. There were present: Mr. W. M. Doane, C.M.G. (Acting Colonial Secretary); Mr. W. Goodman (Attorney-General); Mr. G. Mitchell-Innes (Colonial Treasurer); Mr. J. H. Stewart-Lockhart (Registrar-General); Mr. S. Brown (Surveyor-General); Messrs. P. Ryrie, T. H. Whitehead, Ho Kai, and J. J. Keswick, (unofficial members), and Mr. A. M. Thomson, Clerk of Councils.

The Acting Colonial Secretary announced that His Excellency the Governor was too much indisposed to be with them, and consequently he would preside.

THE minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

REPORTS, &c. The President laid on the table despatches relating to prison accommodation, the Postmaster-General's report for 1890, report on the Government Central School for Girls, report of the Acting Head Master of the Victoria College, report of the Superintendent of Victoria Gaol for 1890, and the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon's report for 1890.

THE CROWN AGENTS. The President—Some months ago a hon. member asked the following question:—"Will the Government lay on the table a statement showing the cost in Hongkong currency dollars of all articles, goods, and stores purchased and forwarded to Hongkong by the Crown Agents for use in connection with the various public works during 1890, the cost laid down to include all commissions, shipping and other charges?" The information having now come to hand it is laid on the table, and any hon. member interested may obtain it for perusal on application to the Clerk of Councils, and if after perusal it is considered that it is a document of a nature which should be printed it will be open to any hon. member to move that it be printed.

AN OFFICIAL SUBTERFUGE. Mr. Ryrie—I beg to give notice that at the next meeting of Council I intend to ask the President if, when he asked me at the meeting of Council on 25th March last if the protest I then laid on the table was a perfectly respectful protest, he meant to imply that I was likely to present, or the unofficial members to concur in a protest, that was not perfectly respectful? Perhaps as His Excellency is not present I had better let it stand over for the present.

The President—I think as His Excellency the Governor is not present it had better be withdrawn, because as a hon. member can always put a question by giving a certain number of days' notice, I think, however, if I may be allowed to say so, if the hon. member will refer to Sir Erskine May's 'Parliamentary Practice' he will see that the only reason for which a protest is not received is that it is not respectful, and His Excellency not having had an opportunity of seeing the protest beforehand was merely, as I take it, making allusion to the only ground on which such a protest could not be received.

The President—I think that if you will look at May's 'Parliamentary Practice' you will see that almost the sole ground on which a protest is not received is that it contains anything disrespectful, and His Excellency not having had an opportunity of reading the protest before he had in his mind that sole objection to its being received, because the hon. member will remember that His Excellency, having read the document, concluded by saying "There is nothing disrespectful and I have no objection to receive it."

Mr. Ryrie—It was a remark which I think I have never heard before, at all events.

The President—Of course this is rather apart from the main business, but I think you will find that is the explanation—that the sole objection to receiving such a protest is on the ground that it contains some word or phrase that is not in accord with parliamentary usage.

Mr. Ryrie—Well, I think it is a question that had better be left over until His Excellency is present.

The President—I think so, and you might look up May's 'Parliamentary Practice' in the meantime.

Mr. Ryrie—I have another question. I beg to give notice that at next meeting of Council, I intend to ask the Colonial Treasurer if the arrears of the military contribution for the year 1890, payment of which was authorised by this Council on the 10th March last, has been paid, and if paid, on what date, or dates, if any, portion of it was paid, and if so upon what authority?

Mr. Whitehead—I rise to ask the questions of which I have just asked the meeting of Council and also the other questions included in the *agenda*.

The questions were as follows:—1.—What was the total expenditure of the Government under the head of salaries for the years 1887, 1888, 1889, and 1890, and what is the estimated total expenditure for the current year under the same heading, on the basis of the increased pay and allowances recommended by this Council?

2.—What was the total expenditure on the Public Works Department for the years 1887, 1888, 1889, and 1890, for salaries and wages, and what is the estimated expenditure under the same heading for the current year on the Public Works Department? and "Water and Drainage Department combined?"

3.—How is it that there has been no meeting of the Public Works Committee appointed in October last?

4.—Does the Government intend to give effect to the recommendation of the unofficial members in their *addendum* of the 20th December, 1890, to submit to the Public Works Committee full details of all Public Works? and 5.—What arrangements have been made for examining and checking accounts sent to the Treasury for payment, and have any difficulties arisen, since the new system of audit was introduced, in checking and examining accounts for payment?

6.—What are the duties of the Treasury Department and the Treasurer, under the new organization of that department?

7.—Can His Excellency the Governor inform the Council whether the Audit system recently introduced in Hongkong is in force in Singapore, Ceylon, or any other Crown Colony, and if so for what special reasons has it been introduced in this Colony?

8.—Will the Government lay on the table a statement showing the present position of the Lighthouse Works on Gap Rock, the amounts actually expended to the 31st March last, and the sums then due although not actually paid, and an estimate of the monies still required to complete the work?

9.—Will the Government lay on the table a statement showing the actual cost to date of the *Fans*, the monthly expenditure for wages and running expenses, interest, &c.; the number of trips she has made to the Gap Rock, and the cost per trip to and from the Gap Rock?

10.—Have the plans for the construction of the sea-wall of the Praya Reclamation, as designed by the late Surveyor-General, and approved by Sir John Coode, been altered in any respect since the commencement of the work?

11.—If they have been altered in any respect, what is the nature of the alterations? What additional expense (if any) does it entail, beyond the sum mentioned in the *Government Gazette* of the 6th July, 1889?

12.—With reference to Government Notification No. 139 of the 28th March, 1891, from which it appears that there are various cases of default in the performance of Covenants entered into on the purchase of Crown Lands, will Government lay on the table a detailed list of the Lands referred to in that Notification, specifying as regards each lot, the date of sale, the name of the purchaser, the nature of the covenant, the area, the present tenant, the area, the premium, the annual Crown rent, and the nature of the covenant unperformed?

The President—In reply to the hon. member I may state that the answers to questions 1 and 2 have been printed and circulated. The reply to No. 3, which must really be read with No. 4, is that no new works have been begun which have not been provided for in the estimates, and it has therefore not been necessary to call together the Public Works Committee. With regard to question No. 4, His Excellency the Governor can give no pledge on this subject which will bind his successors, but recognising the unsatisfactory nature of the system hitherto prevailing, His Excellency intends for the present, by way of experiment, to lay before the Public Works Committee detailed plans and estimates of all works estimated to cost \$3,000 and upwards previous to asking a vote for the same in the Legislative Council. The Governor also intends to lay before the Committee when he receives them, the details of estimates for important works, such as the Central Market, though the vote for the same has already been allowed. With reference to question 5, the examination and checking of accounts have been dealt with according to the Model Instructions, which are being supplemented and amended by Financial Instructions, which will be very shortly approved. The Colonial Treasurer reports that he will recommend the Council to call together the Public Works Committee to consider the question of the increase of salaries of a course of years, and the wisdom of granting them, if in a few years they may have to be reduced. I am of opinion that the officers of the Government have fair grounds for asking for an increase of salaries, if the Colony can afford to pay such increase, but I think the Council ought to be satisfied not only that it is able to pay them, but that it is able to pay them in the future, and next, but for some years to come. From the latest official information furnished to the Council there is an estimated deficit of about \$100,000 in our finances at the end of this current year. Therefore I do not see how we can honestly pay the heavy increase in salaries even this year. I see no prospect in the near future of wiping out that deficit. It seems to me that it must increase. It was in the early part of 1889, I think, that this question of an increase in salaries took form, and that a Committee was appointed by His Excellency to investigate and report on it. What was the position of this Colony or rather our estimate of

its position and prospects, when this question of salaries was first mooted? It is set forth in his Excellency's brilliant despatch of 31st October, 1889, to the Right Hon. the Secretary of State, Lord Knutsford. His Excellency in that despatch was able to refer to the great wealth of the colony; to the 39 millions of dollars of deposits in the local European and Chinese banks; to the market value of all registered companies in Hongkong; 63 million dollars and over; and to the enormous rise in the value of land, Marine lots having advanced 50 per cent., and inland lots 15 to 20 per cent.; also to the 35 new joint stock companies formed since 1st January, 1888, with capital then paid up aggregating over 50 millions of dollars for land investment, manufacture, and trade in Hongkong, and for mining and planting enterprises in the Malay Peninsula, Borneo and Tonquin. His Excellency was then able to express strong hopes as to the success of nearly all these new companies, and to the certainty of a further increase in the value of land in Hongkong, leading to a great enhancement of revenue from land sales, Crown lands, and an increased volume of taxation. His Excellency's despatch was able to point to a vast commerce in a healthy state of progress, with prosperity extraordinary, and prospects magnificent. I have almost quoted His Excellency's own words. What is the state of the colony to-day? His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government in his official minute—the latest information furnished to this Council—estimates a deficiency of about \$100,000 in our finances at the end of the current year. The 39 millions of dollars of deposits in the local Banks have enormously decreased—yes, by millions of dollars—and I say so without fear of contradiction. A large amount of the money has hopelessly gone and been lost for ever, called for to save a comparatively small portion which may or may not be redeemable from total loss. Mining ventures in the Malay Peninsula, tobacco plantations in Borneo, and a number of the new local enterprises have not yet yielded any return on capital invested, while many others are a course of or on the verge of liquidation. The market value-to-day of companies incorporated in Hongkong, and referred to in His Excellency's despatch, has shrunk at the lowest estimate by a sum of ten millions of dollars. Land has fallen greatly in value, we are largely overbuilt in the city of Victoria, at the Peak, Magazine Gap, and at Kowloon—one has only to look around to realise the fact, there are scores, yes hundreds, of empty houses untenanted and yielding no return on the money so invested. The position of matters, can only be aggravated by Government Notification of 28th March last, calling for the fulfilment of covenants unfulfilled upon all sales of Government land. Some years to come there will be no great land sales, no addition to our land revenue, and there must be a diminution in the assessed taxes, rents have fallen to so great an extent. The valuations of July next will prove this. About one-fourth of our total revenue is derived from the opium farm—a most unstable and most uncertain source of income in the near future. His Excellency has wisely reminded the Secretary of State that the present large profit on subsidiary silver coin must not be counted on as a permanent source of revenue. The Chinese Government have now a mint at Canton, and may in time supply a large portion of the Canton and Foochow requirements from which ports the chief demand for these coins arises. Our taxes are already very high—13 per cent. on the rental sounds moderate, but is quite misleading, for rents here are about three times more than rents at home and much higher than in most places in the East. The increase in our garrison of 1,500 men—which was promised, but only exists in the agitation of the War Office, though we have all the same to pay a double military contribution—would have brought considerable commercial benefit to the ratepayers, large sums would have been disbursed locally for rent, supplies, &c., though the public revenue might not have been largely or directly augmented thereby. The financial position of the colony is not strong, and it is doubtful if the estimated revenue for 1891 will be realised. The revenue shows unmistakable signs of instability and shrinkage, while expenditure is rapidly increasing in every direction, more particularly on public works. There are very enormously augmented salaries, and an overwhelming and appalling increase in the Surveyor-General's establishment and increasing demands for contributions to Imperial funds, with no appearance or promise of finally, His Excellency now contends that \$400,000 is a just and fair military contribution from this colony, but he has not given us any figures or arguments in support of this new contention to set against his Excellency's official estimate of the Colony's *ex* financial position which reached the point of danger. His Excellency told us the sad tale of the West Indian Island of St. Thomas, now deserted, if not dead, and pointed out three of the most important causes in operation tending to our destruction, which had already hit us very hard, and of which we were not yet in a position to determine the outcome. The position of the Colony has changed very much, and for the worse, since the question of salaries was first mooted. The actual charge on the Revenue has gone on and may go on increasing. When the Appropriation Bill for 1891 came up for the third reading, the honourable member opposite (Mr. Keswick) informed this Council (in a speech I have now before me) that the original Select Committee, of which he was a member, contemplated a total annual increase in salaries of about \$100,000. The actual increase for 1891 has now swollen to the simply staggering amount of \$120,000—since last year to \$210,000 more than in 1889—or four years ago. In short, salaries now amount to one-third of our total revenue. Much better for the colony, much better for the officers themselves, to grant no increase of pay, if a few years hence there must be a reduction, through our sheer inability to pay. The question is still under the consideration of the Right Honourable the Secretary of State, Lord Knutsford, and therefore still open. By agreeing to this resolution unofficial members would not be guilty of inconsistency, nor would they thereby stultify themselves in any way. Let us wait at least before charging the colony with this large additional permanent expenditure, till there has been some revival in trade, some recovery in values, some definite indications that the sad fate which overtook the Island of St. Thomas and with which His Excellency has threatened us, may not be ours. In view of all the altered circumstances of the colony for the worse I feel justified in moving this resolution.

THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE. The President—It has been brought to the notice of His Excellency the Governor that there is a vacancy on the Public Works Committee owing to the absence of the Mr. C. P. Chaney. I have therefore by direction of His Excellency moved that the Dr. Ho Kai be appointed in his place.

The Attorney-General seconded, and it was carried.

### THE MILITARY CONTRIBUTION.

THE UNOFFICIALS SWAMVED AGAIN.

Mr. Whitehead rose to move the following resolution:—"That in consequence of the enhanced military contribution still demanded by the Imperial Government, this Colony is not in a position to pay the increased salaries recently recommended by the Unofficial Members and that the Secretary of State be requested by telegram to withhold his sanction." In doing so he said:—I have to thank His Excellency for according to my request for the postponement of the discussion of this motion. It was not asked for because of any doubt or uncertainty in my mind as to the facts and figures on which the resolution was deliberately based, or because of any hesitation as to the wisdom and propriety of the position taken up. I asked for an adjournment that the figures might be officially before the Council and the public, in such form that the correctness of my statements might not be questioned. I shall endeavour to satisfy hon. members that the position is not untenable, that the motion has not been the outcome of any sudden impulse, or of anything worse, and that in the result, it will strengthen, not weaken, as His Excellency seems to think, the hands of the unofficial members in their protest, their most respectful and moderately worded protest against the enhanced Military Contribution. This resolution will have the further advantage, whether intended or not of giving His Excellency, and the hon. the official members of this Council, a legitimate opportunity of discussing the general financial situation, and of demonstrating, if it is possible to do so, the ability of the Colony to bear the heavier burden of those now imposed upon it. His Excellency has twice refused to discuss this question, during the course of our recent debates on the Revote of the Military Contribution for 1890. I hope you will not find them backward now, but I adhere to the opinion that such discussion was out of place on the question of the Revote. I cannot agree with His Excellency in his assertion that the demand of the Imperial Government for the payment of the extra \$200,000 was based upon new and general grounds. His statement is not borne out by the Secretary of State's telegram and despatch of the 15th February last. Lord Knutsford simply demands payment of money already voted but unpaid. The Honourable the Colonial Secretary, the Honourable the Captain Superintendent of Police, and the Honourable the Attorney-General, each and all have declared that it was simply and solely a Revote, nothing more and nothing less than a revote. It may be correct to say that this year's enhanced Military Contribution has been asked for on other grounds than the promised increase of salaries, but this cannot with truth be said with reference to 1890. With regard to that vote there has been a deliberate breach of faith and a glaring violation by the Imperial Government of a solemn agreement with the Colony, and His Excellency will not find a dozen persons in the Island who will agree with him that there has not been. I cannot concur with His Excellency in his opinion that I must abandon this motion if I am not prepared to assert and prove that the Colony is not in a position to pay the increased rates of salaries. I may be of opinion that in this year, or perhaps the next, the Colony is in a position, without grievous loss or hurt, to bear the double burden, and yet be of opinion that the Colony will not in the near future be able to support the present increased army of officials at the higher rates of pay. From the official statement laid before the Council to-day it appears that salaries for 1891 will aggregate \$758,150, as compared with \$655,331 for 1890, and \$477,650 for 1889. I do not think the Colony can see its way not merely to pay these salaries this year and next, but for several years to come, it would be unjust and unfair to colonists and officials alike to grant an increase of salaries that three or four years hence may have to be reduced to their present or even to a lower level. The question for debate now is not, "Is the Colony able to pay these increased salaries this year or next?" but are our prospects in the near future such that we shall be able to continue to pay these enhanced rates of salary permanently? We are not giving a bonus out of the realised profits of a few good years to our official servants, but we are binding the Colony to pay these increased rates for years to come. We may vote the military contribution this year, and contemplate the probability that next year we shall be unable to pay it. We cannot deal that way with the question of salaries. We bind the Colony for years to come. These are the facts, and we are bound to face them, and, except under the pressure of the most urgent necessity, there are two points for consideration: the propriety of the proposed increase of salaries, and our ability to pay and to continue to pay this increase. The unofficial members have, cordially recognised the propriety and justice of an increase of salaries. It was on their recommendation it was authorized, they are not wavering on that point, but on the other hand they are not prepared to guarantee that the Colony will be able to continue to pay a course of years, and the wisdom of granting them, if in a few years they may have to be reduced. I am of opinion that the officers of the Government have fair grounds for asking for an increase of salaries, if the Colony can afford to pay such increase, but I think the Council ought to be satisfied not only that it is able to pay them, but that it is able to pay them in the future, and next, but for some years to come. From the latest official information furnished to the Council there is an estimated deficit of about \$100,000 in our finances at the end of this current year. Therefore I do not see how we can honestly pay the heavy increase in salaries even this year. I see no prospect in the near future of wiping out that deficit. It seems to me that it must increase. It was in the early part of 1889, I think, that this question of an increase in salaries took form, and that a Committee was appointed by His Excellency to investigate and report on it. What was the position of this Colony or rather our estimate of

its position and prospects, when this question of salaries was first mooted? It is set forth in his Excellency's brilliant despatch of 31st October, 1889, to the Right Hon. the Secretary of State, Lord Knutsford. His Excellency in that despatch was able to refer to the great wealth of the colony; to the 39 millions of dollars of deposits in the local European and Chinese banks; to the market value of all registered companies in Hongkong; 63 million dollars and over; and to the enormous rise in the value of land, Marine lots having advanced 50 per cent., and inland lots 15 to 20 per cent.; also to the 35 new joint stock companies formed since 1st January, 1888, with capital then paid up aggregating over 50 millions of dollars for land investment, manufacture, and trade in Hongkong, and for mining and planting enterprises in the Malay Peninsula, Borneo and Tonquin. His Excellency was then able to express strong hopes as to the success of nearly all these new companies, and to the certainty of a further increase in the value of land in Hongkong, leading to a great enhancement of revenue from land sales, Crown lands, and an increased volume of taxation. His Excellency's despatch was able to point to a vast commerce in a healthy state of progress, with prosperity extraordinary, and prospects magnificent. I have almost quoted His Excellency's own words. What is the state of the colony to-day? His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government in his official minute—the latest information furnished to this Council—estimates a deficiency of about \$100,000 in our finances at the end of the current year. The 39 millions of dollars of deposits in the local Banks have enormously decreased—yes, by millions of dollars—and I say so without fear of contradiction. A large amount of the money has hopelessly gone and been lost for ever, called for to save a comparatively small portion which may or may not be redeemable from total loss. Mining ventures in the Malay Peninsula, tobacco plantations in Borneo, and a number of the new local enterprises have not yet yielded any return on capital invested, while many others are a course of or on the verge of liquidation. The market value-to-day of companies incorporated in Hongkong, and referred to in His Excellency's despatch, has shrunk at the lowest estimate by a sum of ten millions of dollars. Land has fallen greatly in value, we are largely overbuilt in the city of Victoria, at the Peak, Magazine Gap, and at Kowloon—one has only to look around to realise the fact, there are scores, yes hundreds, of empty houses untenanted and yielding no return on the money so invested. The position of matters, can only be aggravated by Government Notification of 28th March last, calling for the fulfilment of covenants unfulfilled upon all sales of Government land. Some years to come there will be no great land sales, no addition to our land revenue, and there must be a diminution in the assessed taxes, rents have fallen to so great an extent. The valuations of July next will prove this. About one-fourth of our total revenue is derived from the opium farm—a most unstable and most uncertain source of income in the near future. His Excellency has wisely reminded the Secretary of State that the present large profit on subsidiary silver coin must not be counted on as a permanent source of revenue. The Chinese Government have now a mint at Canton, and may in time supply a large portion of the Canton and Foochow requirements from which ports the chief demand for these coins arises. Our taxes are already very high—13 per cent. on the rental sounds moderate, but is quite misleading, for rents here are about three times more than rents at home and much higher than in most places in the East. The increase in our garrison of 1,500 men—which was promised, but only exists in the agitation of the War Office, though we have all the same to pay a double military contribution—would have brought considerable commercial benefit to the ratepayers, large sums would have been disbursed locally for rent, supplies, &c., though the public revenue might not have been largely or directly augmented thereby. The financial position of the colony is not strong, and it is doubtful if the estimated revenue for 1891 will be realised. The revenue shows unmistakable signs of instability and shrinkage, while expenditure is rapidly increasing in every direction, more particularly on public works. There are very enormously augmented salaries, and an overwhelming and appalling increase in the Surveyor-General's establishment and increasing



Mr. Ryle—I rise to second Mr. Whitehead's resolution. He has certainly gone into the whole question in a most exhaustive manner, and I quite agree with him that our increased expenditure we want to do a little retrenchment. It is rather an ungrateful thing to do, what is proposed in the resolution, but still we think it necessary it should be done. We have to look to our ways and means now, and these salaries cannot be paid for some time, they may be reconsidered by and by, but our ways and means are not very flourishing at present, with the military contribution upon us. I have much pleasure in seconding the resolution of the hon. member on my right.

Mr. Keswick—I rise for the purpose of moving an amendment to the motion of my hon. friend Mr. Whitehead. I do so because I am unable to recognise the reason given in the resolution why the salaries should not be increased as altogether logical or correct. As I said in this Council on a former occasion, it is a very ungrateful and unpleasant task to discuss questions like this, which in some respects is personal, or at all events has a personal application, but I cannot shut my eyes to the fact that, as I mentioned in this Council in December last, a mistake has been made in the amount of the increase of salaries recommended. The amount recommended by the Committee was only \$10,000, and instead of that sum, which would have shown a very moderate percentage increase, salaries have been increased to the amount of \$5 per cent. I quite feel that it is desirable in the public interest to tackle this question without delay and recognise that a mistake has been made and ought to be remedied while there is yet time, and it is for that reason I take advantage of the opportunity now afforded me, which I did not expect to have in December. I feared the matter was then complete. I think all the unofficial members felt with myself that a right and proper increase of salaries was necessary. I feel so still. But the resolution of my hon. friend opposite reads "that in consequence of the enhanced military contribution" the colony cannot pay the increased salaries recommended. Now, I am sure that there is no such thing as a free lunch, and in consequence of a great many extraordinary expenses we have that we are unable to grant this increase. I suppose there never was a time in the history of the colony when the enormous demands for public works and general expenditure were so great in comparison with the shrinking revenue. I am satisfied that the revenue of the colony is declining, and it is on these grounds I consider this increase to official salaries of 5 per cent. should be reconsidered and what may be regarded as an adequate increase only be given in its place. I am not in favour of the thing I need say further in moving the amendment, except that I do so on the grounds that the motion of the hon. member is not wide enough in its scope. I would therefore propose, sir, that the following amendment be adopted:—"That in consequence of the increase to official salaries being greatly in excess of what was contemplated by the Committee specially appointed to consider the subject, and the ever-growing Government establishments to which the increase would apply, and in view of the fact that the increasing revenue of this Colony will not equal and great strain upon it for the enormous public works in progress, besides the other impending and urgent necessities of the Colony and the increased military contribution, it is desirable that the Secretary of State be asked by telegram to withhold his sanction to the proposed increase until the amount can be reconsidered."

Dr. Ho Kai—I have much pleasure in seconding the amendment of the hon. member opposite. I think the wording of the amendment is a great improvement on the wording of the resolution, although they both point to the same end and have the same meaning. I think the hon. member who moved the resolution sees that the amendment has the advantage over the original motion in that it sets forth really and truly the considerations which have influenced us in asking that the increase in the official salaries should be reconsidered. In the able speech of the hon. member who proposed the resolution it is clearly shown that the ground for moving it is not wholly the increased military contribution; in fact, the hon. member touched upon all the vital grounds on which the resolution is based, namely, the shrinking revenue of the Colony, the enormous expenditure on the extraordinary public works and many other things, and I am sure the hon. member will readily agree to the substitution of this amendment for the original resolution. I would also mention in connection with this amendment that it shows that at all events we have considered the question thoroughly and have considered all the grounds upon which the reduction in the increase to salaries has been resolved upon. It also shows we are not actuated by a retaliatory spirit just because the military contribution has been carried against us. That is not our reason, but it is really on mature consideration of the ways and means of the colony, of the probable revenue in the future, and of the expenditure.

The Attorney-General—Sir, I am endeavouring to shake off the feeling of intense depression which came over me as Mr. Whitehead drew such a terrible picture of the future of this colony, a picture so different from that drawn some two years ago by his Excellency the Governor. May we not hope that somewhere between the two lies the right amount of balance to show over the scene now? Can we believe the colony will be in a condition as the hon. member would have us believe? For my part I take a more hopeful view of the future of this Colony. It is certainly an embarrassing position in which the official members, or most of the official members, are placed. It is certainly not a nice thing to have to discuss in public the question whether one's salary should be increased or not. One might be thought to be a biased party. I have at least one advantage, because my salary is not affected in any way by the recent recommendations of the unofficial members. Therefore I can speak without any personal feeling in this matter. Now I should like to put another view of this case. The resolution which the hon. member proposes states that the increased salaries were recently recommended. I ask, what is the difference between the prospects of this colony at the date when that recommendation was made by the unofficial members and its prospects at the present date? Was it all sunshine and brightness then, was the future so clear before us in those days, and all so dark, so sombre, so sad now? What has occurred in the meantime? Why, that the unofficial members have been beaten on a vote by a small majority.

Mr. Ryle and Mr. Whitehead—No, no.

The Attorney-General—The unofficial members say by the resolution—I am speaking of the resolution, not the amendment—"That in consequence of the enhanced military contribution" the Colony is not in a position to pay the increased salaries. And this hon. member is very particular that when once a reason is given it should not be departed from. One reason which he gave for the enhanced military contribution, and he himself must stick to the reason he has given. The reason he gives us why the increase should be withheld is in consequence of the enhanced military contribution. If these 15,000 men alluded to some time ago by the hon. member as phantom men, as they did not appear—these 15,000 men who arrived here would that have made any

difference, any material difference, to the revenue of this Colony? Can any hon. member honestly say I don't mean honestly, because we know they are all honest and straightforward—but can they say in their inmost minds that if these 15,000 men had arrived there would have been any objection to paying that enhanced military contribution, and if they had arrived can hon. members say in their inmost minds this resolution would ever have appeared on the paper? It seems to me that the arrival or not of these 15,000 men has nothing to do with the capacity of this colony to pay a certain sum. It seems to me that recommendation having been so recently made nothing has occurred since to justify us in making such a complete volte face as is desired by the hon. member who moves the resolution.

Mr. Whitehead—Before replying to the remarks which have been made by the Attorney-General I am desirous, with your permission, that the amendment be substituted for the motion I made.

The President—I don't think you can quite do that, but you can express your approbation of the amendment and naturally your vote will follow the expression of your approbation.

Mr. Whitehead—Then I would say a few words in reply to the remarks which have been made. It has been stated that I have drawn a terrible picture of the position and condition of this colony. I think there is a very great deal of truth in the remarks which I made, and the future of the colony, on the authority of his Excellency the Governor, is not assured. His Excellency the Governor pointed out three causes, three most important causes, at work tending to our destruction, and his Excellency plainly stated that we were not yet in a position to determine the outcome of these causes at work. A great many changes, I think, have come over the colony since December. A number of the new companies which were supposed to have a brilliant future before them have since gone into liquidation, and there are increased signs of the shrinkage of our revenue. If the 1,500 extra men promised to our garrison had arrived I can honestly say that I would still hold pretty nearly the same view that I do to-day, and that I would not have hesitated to give notice of and to move the resolution I have moved to-day. The resolution, I think, is one that is justified by the altered circumstances of the colony.

The Acting Colonial Secretary—Hon. members, as it has already been observed, this is at first sight a very delicate question for any official member to express an opinion upon, but by a fortunate combination of circumstances it so happens that the salaries of the hon. official members on my left (the Attorney-General and the Surveyor-General) and the Colonial Treasurer on my right are not in any way affected by this proposed increase. Therefore the votes of these three gentlemen must be taken as perfectly impartial. I will now come to my own case. Taking the rate of exchange as it was yesterday and taking away as the recent resolution did the privilege of remitting part of my salary at 4s. 2d., I find that the net gain to me by the increase of salaries will be some \$500 per year. I do not think that \$500 a year is a sum that will be considered to bias my opinion one way or the other. There only remains one member of Council who might possibly be affected (the Registrar-General), but as hon. members have already reduced his proposed salary from what was recommended by the Secretary of State to what they recommended now as a fair salary I also think his vote may be considered as fairly impartial. Now, gentlemen, turning to the question of the amendment, I find that the hon. member who proposed it states that it was the intention of the Committee to recommend an increase of 10 per cent. all round. I am afraid the hon. member has not refreshed his memory by looking at what he signed.

Mr. Keswick—I said an increase of \$10,000. The Acting Colonial Secretary—Yes, and that is about 10 per cent. The report says (a) That the salaries of officers selected in England or holding offices which are usually filled up by officers so selected, having been originally fixed on a sterling basis when the dollar was worth 4s. 2d., should be raised to the equivalent sterling value. The privilege enjoyed by a few officers in this class of remitting at the rate of exchange should be withdrawn and all such officers put on an equal footing. (b) That the salaries of other officers who have suffered from the depreciation of the dollar but who as a class may be deemed to be domiciled in the east should be increased by 20 per cent. Now, gentlemen, what is the value of the dollar to-day? 3s. 2d. What is the difference in percentage between 3s. 2d. and 4s. 2d.? 24 per cent. I do not doubt about the result of arithmetic, and hon. members having recommended that these salaries should be increased 24 per cent. I can scarcely believe they were not aware—because in 1889 the exchange was very low—what would be the result of their recommendation. Then there is another point, although it is not at present in the knowledge of the Council, but I think it will appear in the Government Gazette to-morrow night, and that is that we have received the reports of the actual expenditure and revenue of 1890, and I believe that for the first time for many years, notwithstanding that in those three or four years we had the advantage of a loan, owing to the very great increase manifested over the expenditure the revenue exceeds the expenditure. That is, I think, a very satisfactory state of affairs indeed. Then again if hon. members recollect what we considered the estimates last year, the estimated revenue for 1891 was a little over \$2,000,000 and the estimated expenditure was \$1,900,000 in round numbers. Therefore as far as the difference between the revenue and the expenditure there would be a net balance to the colony of \$100,000, the so-called deficit being caused by the immense sums voted for extraordinary public works. But it must be borne in mind that the majority of these extraordinary works are remunerative works, markets and things of that kind, which will, according to the estimates that have been made, bring in a satisfactory percentage on the amount expended. Therefore unable to take such a gloomy view of the revenue of the colony as is taken by some of the hon. members. Then again I cannot follow the logic of this motion. First of all the hon. member who proposes the resolution compares actual expenditure with estimates. Surely that is a fallacious test. As a rule the difference between the estimated expenditure and the actual expenditure is something like \$200,000 a year. Then again the hon. member makes no difference whatever to the new offices that appear in these estimates. For instance, nurses at the Civil Hospital \$1,600, four more European constables \$4,000, turnkeys \$2,400. Colonial Treasurer, making allowance for the previous salary \$2,500, two or three clerks \$5,000 owing to the transfer of the Audit Office, and increase to the Observatory \$2,000. Now, all these amounts should be brought into account, and surely when the hon. member brought forward these reasons why there should be an increase of salaries he ought to have shown the other side of the balance sheet, the gain of \$160,000 from the abolition of family remittances. Comparing the salaries for 1890 with the estimated salaries for 1891 there is only a difference of \$75,000 and from that \$75,000 you have to deduct \$32,000, \$16,000 that are saved by these family remittances and as much that must be

placed to the credit of new offices. Therefore the absolute difference is \$44,000. That is the net increase on salaries for this year, and hon. members may remember that when we considered this question in Finance Committee, I said the probable increase would be about \$50,000. Now, gentlemen, taking that as a fact, that the real increase in salaries is only \$44,000 and that we are called upon to pay this additional sum for military contribution, which amounts to \$114,000, I must say I should have expected the hon. member to have brought forward some exhaustive motion which would have asked this Council to make some means of making up the whole. But not a word as to that came in. Then, again, I must say I should have expected, considering the hon. member voted for the Widows and Orphans' Bill and for the Ordinance for the abolition of the Civil List, that he would at least by the motion have asked that the Government would, in addition to repealing the Appropriation Bill for 1891—for that is practically what this resolution comes to—bring forward a Bill to repeal the Ordinance cancelling the Civil List Ordinance, which was the Magna Charta of the rights of the Civil Servants of the Colony.

also a Bill to repeal the Widows and Orphans' Bill, which compels a great number of those obtaining the increase of salaries to subscribe to the fund. Then, again, the hon. member who has proposed the resolution says this question was not brought forward as a matter of impulse, and, of course, we accept his statement, but it so happens that we are enabled to fix the fact that this change of view to salaries must have taken place some time since the 23rd of February last, in other words that this change of opinion—notice of this motion was given a fortnight ago—must have taken place between the 23rd February and 23rd March. Now my reasons for this statement are these: it so happens that the very same day on which this increased military contribution was brought forward for the consideration of Council, on that very same day the present and future Governors of this colony was tabled and hon. members voted for that increase of salary to the present and future Governors without a word of dissent. Their objections to the military contribution were overruled. At the subsequent meeting of the Legislative Council what happened? The increase to the Governor was passed without a word and the question of the military contribution was postponed for one week, I think, and at a subsequent meeting the motion of the unofficial members against the contribution was negatived. Then appears the question as to whether the increased salaries have been paid. Then no sooner are the words out of my mouth than these increased salaries have not been paid, then the hon. member springs up and gives notice of the motion now before the Council. It seems to me that although this may not have been the action of impulse, yet seeing the very important interests concerned, affecting three Ordinances of the Colony, and the fact that all members of Council approved the increase of salary to the present and future Governors, amounting to some \$1,000, it might have been expected that we should have heard something about the general question at that time and that the vote would have been opposed. Under all the circumstances I must say I think the official members are in a sufficiently strong position to justify their vote in seeing that the interests of the other members of the Service are not passed over on this occasion, and I think considering the hardships several of them, especially the older officers of the service have gone through in the last twenty or thirty years by seeing the purchasing value of their salaries year by year diminish, without any fault on their part or without being able in any way to check it, that every member here is perfectly justified in voting against not only the amendment but the resolution.

Mr. Ryle said with reference to the hon. J. J. Keswick, he had been absent from some meetings of the Committee appointed, but that he was unable to do so, having held only one opinion on the matter, he having expressed that opinion more than once to him.

The President said he had only referred to what appeared over the signature of the hon. member.

The Council then divided on Mr. Keswick's amendment as follows:—

FOR. AGAINST.  
Mr. Whitehead The Registrar-General  
Dr. Ho Kai The Colonial Treasurer  
Mr. Ryle The Attorney-General  
Mr. Keswick The Surveyor-General  
The President

The President—The amendment is lost.  
Mr. Ryle—And the original motion stands.  
The President—Not in this case. The Council will now divide on the original motion.  
Mr. Whitehead—I do not quite understand, I have already given my vote.

The President—A resolution was proposed and then an amendment was proposed. According to the rules of this Council the amendment is put first and the resolution afterwards. The amendment having been lost the original resolution now becomes the question before the Council. I have therefore to ask the Council to vote on the original question.

The Council then divided on the motion:—

FOR. AGAINST.  
Mr. Whitehead The Registrar-General  
Dr. Ho Kai The Colonial Treasurer  
Mr. Ryle The Attorney-General  
Mr. Keswick The Surveyor-General  
The President

The resolution was therefore lost.

FEES FOR LETTERS PATENT.

The Attorney-General moved the first reading of a Bill for the making of a table of fees to be taken in connection with the grant of Letters Patent in this Colony. He stated that in England, and in most of the colonies that he was acquainted with, a proper table of fees existed, but in this Colony there did not seem to be any special provision giving the power to make a table of fees. It might be taken that the licence would not be granted unless the fees were paid, but he thought it better that power should be given in the Council to draw up a fixed table of fees.

The Colonial Treasurer seconded, and the Bill was read a first time.

THE GAMBLING BILL.

The Council went into Committee on this Bill. Dr. Ho Kai—I see by the copy of the Bill before us that a number of alterations have been made, and I think the consideration of the Bill should be adjourned until we have had time to read these alterations through. I see that the definition of a gaming house has been altered and section 3, which states under what circumstances a club may be deemed a gaming house, has also been amended. I think it would save time ultimately if we were allowed time to consider the alterations made.

The President—I think, perhaps, we might go on with certain portions of the Bill. Of course no doubt the *error* of the Bill, so to speak, is the definition of a gaming house and section 3. I think we might go over the other clauses and leave these over.

Dr. Ho Kai—I think it would be better if the whole stood over. Speaking for myself I think the definition and section 3 were satisfactorily

settled, I think probably there might be no opposition to the other clauses and we might pass them in very little time, but the whole thing appears to depend on these two questions.

The President—How long has the amended Bill been in the hands of members?

Dr. Ho Kai—We have only just seen it.

The President—Under those circumstances I have no hesitation in acceding to your request that the consideration of the Bill be postponed.

The Council then adjourned *sine die*.

## VICTORIA GAOL.

### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

The report of the Superintendent of Victoria Gaol laid on the table at the Legislative Council meeting on Friday last, was as follows:—

Hongkong, 13th January, 1891.

Sir,—I beg to forward herewith the annual statistical return of Victoria Gaol for the year 1890.

During ten months of this year the duties of Superintendent were performed by Major Dempster.

There has been a small decrease in the average number of prisoners during the year and a very large proportionate increase in the number of prison offences, but this increase is due to petty offences of which talking, short oaks picking and irregularities at short-drill are the principal. The number of serious prison offences has not increased.

The conduct of the subordinate staff during the year has been satisfactory.

### PRISON BUILDINGS.

The prison buildings remain unchanged. My annual urgent recommendations for Gaol enlargement and introduction of the separate system associated wards and as it is considered that separation would be especially effective in the case of Chinese, an arrangement which, after considerable expenditure would still fall in great measure to secure this object, cannot be considered satisfactory.

I have accordingly come to the conclusion that the whole or part of a new prison must be built upon a fresh site, and I consider that the second plan suggested by Mr. Brown should be built, providing separate accommodation for (say) 200 or 250 prisoners, avowedly only as an instalment of a complete new prison. The same course you will remember was followed in Mauritius, and a reference to my despatch No. 91 of the 9th of June, 1887, will show that three years ago I urged that "as soon as ever funds are available a wing of the new prison should be constructed." If the building is thus gradually completed there ought to be no necessity for having recourse to a loan.

The site of the present prison is, I understand, beyond question the proper position for the Police Station and the Magistrate's Courts; and in connection with them it is necessary to have a certain amount of prison accommodation for prisoners under remand, awaiting trial, &c. Eventually permanent provision might also be made on this site for short sentenced prisoners and debtors (if imprisonment for debt be continued), and except for the latter the separate system should be adopted throughout, converting the present building into a house of detention, containing a certain number of wards for debtors and cells for 150 prisoners—say, accommodation for 150 in all. The radiating blocks in the rear and the out-buildings in the front might be cleared away, and if funds are available, the Courts and Police Station might be improved.

The prison on the new site when complete might contain cells for from 400 to 450 prisoners, together with governor's quarters, offices, accommodation for the staff, &c.

The disadvantage of duplicating the staff seems not to be so serious as has been suggested. Wherever the extra accommodation is provided, additional warders must be employed, and the old prison in its new application could well be placed in charge of an assistant superintendent or chief warder.

As regards the number of prisoners to be provided for I have already dealt with the subject of the mendicants in my despatch No. 215 of the 4th of June, 1887. The number of debtors sent to prison in 1889 was 8, and I would again suggest that imprisonment for debt should be abolished in Hongkong. No reason has been given why it should be retained in this Colony in particular, and I cannot but hope that, on reconsideration your Council may agree in the advisability of its abolition. The introduction of the separate system may be expected, as you have observed, eventually to further diminish the number of prisoners, and I do not therefore contemplate the necessity of providing for more than 450 separate cells in the new gaol, of which not more than 250 would be built in the first instance.

In accordance with Mr. Brown's request printed "Description of the Prison at Windward Scrubs" has been obtained from the Director of Convict Prisons and is herewith enclosed; and I have asked the Governor of the Straits Settlements to have a copy of the plans of the Singapore criminal prison made and sent to Hongkong.

I will only add, in conclusion, that I rely on you to press this matter forward without delay. I have sufficiently commented in former despatches on the manner in which it has been shelved from time to time, and I earnestly trust that the suggestions now made will be recognized as reasonable and will meet with no further opposition in the Council. I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient humble servant.

INCREASED GAOL ACCOMMODATION.  
The following despatch by the Secretary of State was laid on the table at the same meeting:—

Downing Street,

21st November, 1890.

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 334 of the 16th of September submitting, with your own comments, a report by the Surveyor-General upon the best mode of increasing and improving the prison accommodation of the colony.

Three alternative plans are suggested by Mr. Brown, and are considered in your despatch, viz.: additions to and modifications of the present building, the construction of one new block on another site, and the construction of a whole prison on a new site.

You incline to the first plan as most likely to be in harmony with the wishes of the community, and I wish I could bring myself to sanction it if only for the reason that the delay has already been so great that any scheme which is likely to be pushed forward quickly, has on that ground much to commend it.

The objections, however, to enlarging the present gaol, to some of which Mr. Brown calls attention, seem on full consideration to be insuperable. The two evils which it is wished to remedy, viz.: overcrowding and association, would, under it, still continue. For the crowding of prisoners in the building would be substituted, crowding of buildings on the site; out buildings of low elevation, which do not seriously impede the circulation of air, would be pulled down, and the area thus cleared, while a still larger space, would be filled by a large three-storied block, skirting out all light and air and absorbing the space used for exercising yards, work-shops and other essentials—the prison thus made consisting of a number of large blocks separated by alley ways from 20 to 25 feet wide. A large number of the prisoners would still be crowded together, and as it is considered that separation would be especially effective in the case of Chinese, an arrangement which, after considerable expenditure would still fall in great measure to secure this object, cannot be considered satisfactory.

I have accordingly come to the conclusion that the whole or part of a new prison must be built upon a fresh site, and I consider that the second plan suggested by Mr. Brown should be built, providing separate accommodation for (say) 200 or 250 prisoners, avowedly only as an instalment of a complete new prison. The same course you will remember was followed in Mauritius, and a reference to my despatch No. 91 of the 9th of June, 1887, will show that three years ago I urged that "as soon as ever funds are available a wing of the new prison should be constructed." If the building is thus gradually completed there ought to be no necessity for having recourse to a loan.

The site of the present prison is, I understand, beyond question the proper position for the Police Station and the Magistrate's Courts; and in connection with them it is necessary to have a certain amount of prison accommodation for prisoners under remand, awaiting trial, &c. Eventually permanent provision might also be made on this site for short sentenced prisoners and debtors (if imprisonment for debt be continued), and except for the latter the separate system should be adopted throughout, converting the present building into a house of detention, containing a certain number of wards for debtors and cells for 150 prisoners—say, accommodation for 150 in all. The radiating blocks in the rear and the out-buildings in the front might be cleared away, and if funds are available, the Courts and Police Station might be improved.

The prison on the new site when complete might contain cells for from 400 to 450 prisoners, together with governor's quarters, offices, accommodation for the staff, &c.

The disadvantage of duplicating the staff seems not to be so serious as has been suggested. Wherever the extra accommodation is provided, additional warders must be employed, and the old prison in its new application could well be placed in charge of an assistant superintendent or chief warder.

As regards the number of prisoners to be provided for I have already dealt with the subject of the mendicants in my despatch No. 215 of the 4th of June, 1887. The number of debtors sent to prison in 1889 was 8, and I would again suggest that imprisonment for debt should be abolished in Hongkong. No reason has been given why it should be retained in this Colony in particular, and I cannot but hope that, on reconsideration your Council may agree in the advisability of its abolition. The introduction of the separate system may be expected, as you have observed, eventually to further diminish the number of prisoners, and I do not therefore contemplate the necessity of providing for more than 450 separate cells in the new gaol, of which not more than 250 would be built in the first instance.

In accordance with Mr. Brown's request printed "Description of the Prison at Windward Scrubs" has been obtained from the Director of Convict Prisons and is herewith enclosed; and I have asked the Governor of the Straits Settlements to have a copy of the plans of the Singapore criminal prison made and sent to Hongkong.

I will only add, in conclusion, that I rely on you to press this matter forward without delay. I have sufficiently commented in former despatches on the manner in which it has been shelved from time to time, and I earnestly trust that the suggestions now made will be recognized as reasonable and will meet with no further opposition in the Council. I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient humble servant.

CRICKSHANK & CO. LIMITED.  
The third annual meeting of the shareholders in the above Company was held at the Hongkong Hotel on the 10th inst. Mr. J. Stephen (General Manager) presided, and amongst those present were Messrs. G. Fenwick, F. A. Bain, &c.

The Chairman expressed regret at the general depression that existed last year.

Mr. Fenwick proposed, and Mr. Bain seconded, the adoption of the report, which was agreed to, and Mr. F. Henderson having been re-elected auditor, the proceedings terminated.

H. G. BROWN AND COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to shareholders at the second annual general meeting to be held at the Hongkong Hotel on Saturday, the 18th April, at noon:—

The General Managers now beg to submit their report on the working of the Company's business, together with a statement of accounts for the year 1890.

recommend (this should be appropriated as follows:—

To dividend of \$5 per share, say 10 per cent. \$30,000.00  
remuneration to Consulting Committee and General Managers as per articles of association 4,186.04  
depreciation on ships and stocks 3,000.00  
write 10 per cent. off goodwill 4,600.00  
carry forward to next account 1,472.50

\$43,758.54

PROPERTIES.

All the Company's properties are in good order and have been well maintained during the year. It will be seen from the accounts now submitted that some additions have been made to the Company's fleet of sailing vessels during the past year, and that a steam launch also has been purchased, all of which have been considered necessary to provide for the increasing work to be done.

The China markets for timber, as for many other articles of commerce, have proved very disappointing during the past year, but it is to be expected that some improvement will soon be shown, and that the Company's business will participate in same. On the other hand the Company has been kept very fully occupied in Manila, and contracts are now on hand which will provide full work for some time to come, and the prospects for the current year seem very favorable indeed.

MANAGER.  
In accordance with the terms of his agreement Mr. Brown has retired from the management in the Philippines, and the business of the Company is now being conducted by Mr. G. Fenwick, a gentleman who for number of years past has been associated with Mr. Brown in the business, and the General Managers and Consulting Committee are well satisfied that in his hands the work will be well and efficiently done.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.  
Messrs. Dalrymple, Spence and Layton retire in accordance with the order of Association, but being eligible offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITOR.  
The accounts have been audited by Mr. Fullerton Henderson, who offers himself for re-election.

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO., General Managers.

Hongkong, 10th April, 1891.

MACAO.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Macao, 13th April, 1891.

His Excellency the Governor of this hapless colony is making a spirited attempt to prevent the entire closing of the port. The mud has for some time been blocking up the harbour to such an extent that the day cannot be too far distant, unless effective measures of prevention are actively taken in hand, when even steamers of the lightest draft will be unable to enter the inner harbour. Senhor Borja, himself a practical sailor, has recognised the danger, and as Macao's very existence depends on the maintenance of her shipping relations with Hongkong and Canton, he has done wisely in grappling with a serious difficulty that has been rendered more formidable by the neglect of years. The harbour of Macao needs thorough dredging and the construction of a new Light-house to the wharves inside, and at a meeting of the Executive Council held on Saturday the 4th inst., the preliminary steps to this reform were inaugurated. Tenders had been invited for a powerful dredger, and out of numerous competitors the decision eventually rested between a Belgian firm and the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Limited. A wise resolution was adopted when it was unanimously decided that the tender of the Dock Company be accepted, to supply for the sum of \$10,000 a powerful dredger, in accordance with plans and specifications, together with two steamers and barges. The proposed purchase of the dredger has been passed in Council, and no doubt the money necessary will be voted in due course; but nevertheless it would be a risky business predicting a stated time when we shall see the dredger actively at work. The wheels of practical reform revolve very slowly in the "gem of the Orient's earth."

The Government has started to dig out the old dock and to erect work-shops to repair the machinery of steam-launches, etc., just inside the Barrafort. This dock was presented to Government as a short cut to the sea, and was built by the Acting Governor—by Colonel Ferreira—in the adopted son of Chow On, one of the leading Chinese merchants, and the authorities are now clearing it out and constructing a small naval depot for local repairs.

It is satisfactory to note that the work of thoroughly cleaning the town is being energetically proceeded with. After the deadly influenza epidemic of the past winter the Government issued a decree that every road and street should be cleaned, and that every house in the colony must be white-washed every three years. This has been carried out with great energy, and it is being carried out and doubtless beneficial results to the public health will accrue.

Referring to the epidemic of influenza, the loss of life here was very great. A large number of old Portuguese residents succumbed, and amongst the Chinese the death-rate averaged from thirty to forty daily.

The gunboat *Tylo* left here for Lisbon on Saturday morning. In addition to her proper complement she had on board twenty-two Portuguese passengers and twenty-two Chinese, and she was accompanied by a small tugboat, which will have a very busy time in the hot weather the vessel is certain to encounter on her homeward voyage.

At the half-yearly meeting of shareholders in the Hongkong and Macao Steamboat Co. on January 30th, the Chairman (Mr. E. R. Bellion) stated that the steamer *Hongkong* had proved a very reliable vessel for the trade. This "very reliable vessel" was stuck in the mud and was unable to get off the port on Saturday last, and it was not until the following day that it was able to get off the port. The vessel was stuck in the mud for over three hours last night.

There has been a good deal of talk here lately about the probability of timber being opened up to industrial enterprises and utilized for the benefit of Macao. Through the influence of Bishop de Medeiros' concessions have been granted to Mr. J. A. Barreto of Hongkong and to Mr. J. A. Barreto of this port, the former to work alleged petroleum deposits, the latter to search for gold. It is said that prospecting will shortly be commenced, and the concession being borne by the Hon. C. P. Chater, who is understood to have secured a considerable interest in the venture. Some years ago the petroleum deposits in Timor were the subject of general discussion in commercial circles, and the present writer has a satisfactory analysis made on a sample by a local expert; but for some reason or other the proposed scheme was allowed to lapse. At all events it did not for some time support the three false petroleum myths. It is understood that the concession is for the Malay Archipelago, and that they are in the interior and can never be made available to the country is civilised. The same author also states that gold has been found, but very sparingly and of poor quality.











# MAIL SUPPLEMENT.

## The Hongkong Telegraph.

No. 2819.

THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 1891.

SIX DOLLARS PER QUARTER

**BIRTH.**  
At Newchwang, on the 26th March, 1891, the wife of W. MARTINSON, of the I.M. Customs, of a daughter.

**DEATHS.**  
At Peking, on 18th March, Mr. J. GURRIN.  
At 12, Nanking Road, Shanghai, on the 10th instant, THOMAS HAROLD VALE, in his 42nd year.

On the 26th of March, at Hou Li Likia Office, Kuo-yao Hien, WILLIAM SILLS, of Her Britannic Majesty's Colonial Service, Singapore.

**The Hongkong Telegraph.**

HONGKONG THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 1891.

### HOW CRIMINALS ARE MANUFACTURED IN HONGKONG.

THE time is 9 a.m. and the scene is laid in the gloomy, evil-smelling pig-sty which does duty for a Police Court in Hongkong. The "pen" is crowded with the customary variety of the heathen Chinese; old and young of both sexes are huddled together waiting to face the music. Enter his Worship, gay, smiling and debonaire, humming a popular melody from the "Contrabandists" and with a choice orchid in his coat. And then the fun begins. It is not very exciting to the onlookers. A couple of newspaper reporters yawn audibly at the table, an inspector of police and a budding solicitor discuss in undertones the merits of a gaming-house case that is on the list, the door-ways are blocked by policemen and idlers of various descriptions, and the back of the room is crowded by Celestials interested in the proceedings. The magistrate loses no time in settling down to work, and the gaming-house case is first called. Two victims are sent into retirement, for six months with hard labour, two others getting off with half that sentence, the heavy fines imposed not being forthcoming. These four men presented outwardly a respectable appearance and there was nothing about them to indicate the ordinary stamp of a criminal; and they were made members of that class for an offence which is openly carried out in high places throughout the colony and complacently winked at by the authorities. A number of unfortunates who had set at naught the *Opium Ordinance* were next quickly sent to swell the already over-crowded ranks and to herd indiscriminately with robbers, house-breakers and other hardened gaoibirds. Mendicants and vagrants of various kinds and of both sexes, unlicensed hawkers, several *campan* girls who had broken the peace by slanging each other, a European sailor who had imbibed distilled damnation not wisely but too well the previous night in Taipingshan, a miserable-looking wretch who was charged with "unlawful possession"—he was arrested with a few pieces of wood picked up in the street, and afterwards committed suicide in gaol by hanging himself with his waist-belt—and several other minor offenders were all carefully "gathered in" by outraged Justice, and his Worship was just preparing to quit the busy scene of his every-day life when a gigantic Sikh policeman strode forward and violently threw—that is the only proper expression we can think of to accurately describe the brutal method adopted—a young Chinese lad of about 18 years of age into the now empty dock. This was a serious offender against public morality, and accordingly the dispenser of Police Court law and justice settled himself back in his chair and grimly smiled, in a fashion that foreboded a bad time for the prisoner. Perhaps his Worship was disappointed and annoyed at being detained just as he was preparing to start for the Club; perhaps he was not, but, anyhow, this is what took place. The Chinese youth, an emaciated lad who had evidently been in a state of semi-starvation for weeks, was charged with the grievous crime of ear-rings snatching. Hearse the facts, brought out in evidence: The offence was committed somewhere near the Chinese Recreation Ground; the lad admitted he was very hungry and was trying to appease Nature's cravings with stale vegetables and fruit picked up out of the road-way, when suddenly a Chinese girl came rolling along, conspicuous for a pair of gorgeous ornaments, value about twenty cents, in her pink little ears. The starving wretch never thought of British morality, he had never heard of British Immaculate Justice, the time was not yet when the Heir to the Throne had grossly outraged the law and become a participant in one of the most disreputable scandals on record—at all events he snatched at the tempting bauble, the young lady squealed, and a black GOLIATH in the Queen's uniform accomplished the rest. The girl's ear was not injured, the earring was of no actual value, the offence itself was not serious, the extraneous circumstances were all in favor of the prisoner—he was starving and the temptation was irresistible; and he was not a habitual criminal, he had never been in gaol before—but his Worship is an advocate of repressive measures and the lash, and he sentenced this boy, to nine months imprisonment with hard labour, supplemented by two floggings of twenty strokes each with a rattan—and then his Worship gaily picked his teeth and was carried down to the Club where he was "faint, principled" in discussing the "grip" of the town, and went home to tiffin with a splendid appetite. And the lame and blind mendicants, the unorthodox vagrants and nomadic hawkers, the daring ruffians who had been captured red-handed with a few pennyweights of unlicensed opium in their possession, the

gamblers who had been railed in their own houses and who had the bad luck neither to be members of the Hongkong Club nor to have the special privilege of running a barefaced gambling show by the Powers-that-will-not-see, the erring *campan* girls, the abnormally thirsty seamen, and the man who was unfortunate enough to be found with a few pieces of wood in his possession which belonged to nobody in particular, were each and all relegated to Victoria Gaol, to the select society of convicts, as the latest consignment of specially manufactured Hongkong criminals. The ear-ring snatcher was initiated into the mysteries of British civilisation by being stripped, tied up like a dog, and his flesh cut out in pieces by two stalwart turnkeys, this Christian-like operation necessitating a three weeks' lie-back in the Gaol Hospital to enable him to gain sufficient strength to go forth to hard labour in the shape of the crank, shot-drill, oakum-picking, or carrying big lumps of stone from one end of the yard to the other for the edification of the officers in charge. Europeans are exempted from the crank and from stone carrying, and they are never flogged unless under extraordinary circumstances—there is only one case on record under the existing regulations—so that, notwithstanding many official protestations to the contrary, the European prisoner is a favored mortal, and we think he ought to be, even to a far greater extent than is the case. When this young Chinese is sent forth from prison with the indelible marks of the convict on him, where is he going? What is he going to do? Can there be any reasonable doubt on the subject? We think not. He will go forth to starvation, and he will steal whatever he can lay his hands on to allay the pangs of hunger; he will be again arrested, committed to the Supreme Court as an old offender, sentenced to a term of penal servitude, and all hope of reclamation or reformation will have gone.

Is this wholesale manufacture of criminals justified? Can anything be done to avert it, to lessen an evil that threatens to swamp Hongkong with convicts who might have been useful members of the community but for the Draconian and mistaken severity of our magistrates and judges? In our opinion the present system of so-called prohibitive sentences is a scathing satire on the laudatory professions of civilised government we are so fond of indulging in, and is detrimental to the general interests of this colony. Besides, it is a system that in England is acknowledged to have proved a pronounced failure. To send a man to gaol for debt, gambling, evading the *Opium Ordinance*, for being a mendicant or unlicensed hawker, or for numerous other minor breaches of the letter of the law, is altogether out of harmony with the spirit and character of the age in which we live; whilst the severe sentences passed for acts of petty larceny, the most numerous class of offences with which our judges have to deal, only defeat the end in view. With reference to the last named crime Mr. RECORDED HORWOOD, one of the ablest of English judges, recently said—

"I am of opinion that for petty larcenies, though often repeated, the terms of imprisonment given are cruel and useless; for there is not a trace of evidence of reform in the offender produced by them. I judge each case as it arises, and proportion the sentence to the nature of the offence. I am, too, of opinion that the sentences for embezzlement, false pretences and larceny by servants have been shocking, and calculated to break down for life or add to the criminal class people whom great leniency might save and recover to honesty and respectability. I deal with five hundred prisoners and more annually, and in two thousand sentences I have none of penal servitude. My average of punishment is two-thirds less than in the time of my predecessor, and I am convinced that the sentences throughout the country might safely be reduced in that ratio. I practiced many years at two Courts of Session, both held in Manchester. One for that borough was held before a Recorder with whom a sentence of penal servitude for a second offence was almost certain. The other Court, having jurisdiction over Salford, the twin borough, and a large portion of the populous places adjoining, was presided over by a paid chairman, a barrister, who gave much such sentences as I do. The over-wise and confidant would predict that, as the population, property, and temptation of the two jurisdictions were similar, the Salford criminals would grow in numbers. Nothing of the kind. The lesson was not lost on me, learned, thirty-five years since my own observation and experience have not been teaching. The cry is constant from the dock, 'I have sinned, work in vain!' 'Oh, give me something to do!' The man who can listen to such appeals and yet treat such criminals as voluntary agents, as pests to be got rid of, and argue that society has a right to protect itself against pestiferous by sentences sufficient for homicide, must be thoughtless or stupid or cruel or pharisaical or doctrinaire to the extent to which he judges his fellow-men."

And Lord Chief Justice COLERIDGE is of the same opinion as the Recorder. At the Warwick Assizes a few months ago his lordship, in charging the grand jury, condemned the terrific severity with which persons convicted for the third or fourth time of small pecuniary offences were frequently punished. He said that the result of these severe sentences was that the rod broke in the hands of judges when they came to deal with crimes of enormity, because they could not inflict heavier punishment for these than had been awarded for trumpery offences. "Slowly but surely," he continued, "his lordship's sound and humane views are making their way, and the object of judges should be to see how little punishment can be inflicted consistent with the safety of society." The partial adoption of this system has already tended to a heavy decrease of crime in the country. At the same time, judges must not be squeamish where severity is necessary. There is

a lot of sound wisdom in these remarks which local dispensers of justice would do well to take to heart, and which the Government should not lose sight of.

### THE GOVERNOR'S DESPATCH.

LONG long ago the Psalmist counselled succeeding generations to "put no trust in Princes," nor, added the Sage, "in any son of man." Could he, in the infinity of his wondrous wisdom, have had Colonial Governors within the focus of his mind when he conceived so irrefutable a truism? Fifteen months ago we sank our own private pessimistic (?) opinions to some extent after having read Sir G. W. Vaux's now historic despatch, and, having no desire to pose as a modern and masculine Cassandra, hoped and confided, so far as in us lay, that the aforesaid document was not only based on existing facts but possessed also a full measure of prophetic virtues. So we refrained from searching so closely as it our wont into the foundations upon which Governor Vaux had built his golden exile anent the Arabian Nights-like prosperity of Hongkong as it was at that period, and of the unheard-of riches that lay buried in its then-existing industries and chimerical accumulative sources of wealth.

We have a score of times of late pointed out of how fictitious a nature is the boasted prosperity of this most wretched of all the mis-governed British colonies upon which the sun has, according to ultra-lingo notions, been ordered to shine for evermore: the sun shines here at present under a pretty thick cloud which obscures most people to a considerable extent. It, however, remained for the Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD, a banker and a keen man of business, to bring out in the so-called local Legislative Council on the 10th inst., facts which have the stubborn support of figures behind them, to prove the absolute truth of our previous assertions, and to shatter the few remaining ruins of that golden state in which Governor Vaux pictured Hongkong to be, when that gambling mania of '89 had distended the Colony almost even to the extent of blessed "bustledness" and which is now so fully realized and so keenly felt.

The thing speaks for itself, and it is almost pitiable to recognise upon how rotten a basis the "brilliant despatch" was built—how gassy the facts, and how slippery the figures. It needs no special pleading to show that—anyone who has lived in Hongkong for the last year or two can decide for himself, without our comments, if he will read a few extracts. Carried away by the fictitious prosperity of the period, Sir G. W. Vaux, in the despatch referred to, practically invited the Home Government to handicap this colony to an unlimited extent. He has admitted it. In the despatch he described our (artificial) prosperity in breathless phrases as from a coup d'air. Better had he said a coup de solif. Who can wholly blame Lord KINTON for doubling our military contribution when he read ten columns of solid "taffy" about our wealth and importance—a screed which would have done credit to the most romantic globe-trotter or the leading humbug in the Company-promoting line! True, his Excellency did try in a dignified way to take it all back at the Council meeting on the 19th ult., by saying that this Colony was "regarded by the outside world as very wealthy," whereas it was in a state of collapse, but he was not honest enough to go further, and say "it was so regarded"—and, consequently, oppressed with this fresh burden of the increased military contribution, through my inaccurate and exaggerated picture of local affairs." The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD did this for him, on the 10th, and his Excellency should thank his kinder stars that he was prevented from hearing so crushing a criticism upon his ability as a painter and glider as that delivered by Mr. WHITEHEAD, in whom the public have at last found a representative who is not a dumb nonentity. His unofficial colleagues rose to the occasion even—fancy that!—and lived, and moved, and had their being—perhaps because his Excellency wasn't there. And the result was—what? A denial of the truth about the state of local affairs, an official vote that was as discreditable as the bartered vote of a prejudiced jury, a swamping majority of might over right, another nail in the coffin of the present system of local Government!

Aye, that last phrase sums up public opinion (as far as that commodity is worth anything on Hongkong) in a nutshell. We are governed too much and too little. In another column can be read the walls of ill-treated ratepayers, lifting up their Ebenezer against the patch of small potatoes known as the Sanitary Board; we have seen what we have to endure whilst we have a Legislative Council as at present constituted. What Hongkong hankers for is not to be rated as a first-class colony at first-class, gilt-edged, fancy prices; our yearning is for first-class administration that can show sympathetic recognition of our needs, and judiciously guide our aspirations—when we have any.

Our course is clear—if only the mob of antagonistic cliques which make up Hongkong "Society" will but combine to follow some sensible leader for once. The Legislative Council must be made to "move on." For years and years public opinion has clamoured for popular representation, and it has got to come to that. It is not enough for that aggregation of time-serving toadies known as Justices of the Peace, nor the moss-covered Wilkes,

agemonie that passes here as being a Chamber of Commerce, to send even the most able representatives, since they are invariably the under-dog in the fight. Hongkong, if it has to pay its own taxes and support its own standing army, wants to say what and whom it shall pay, and the only commonsense way of attaining that end is by following the admirable example of the Australian colonies by sweeping away the present anomalous body that never does anything but feel the Colonial pulse, say that we want bleeding—and promptly lance us for all we are worth. We shall have a Municipal Council before very long, if we don't imitate Macao by dying of sheer inertia, or the (now) deserted island of St. Thomas, that his Excellency told us of the other day when the affluus had evaporated; Hongkong wants self-government; she isn't yearning for 1,500 extra troops, and she doesn't care a cent if the Fleet goes permanently away and loses itself, but she does claim the right to run her own drainage system, and to say whether she can afford to pay her public servants little or much, or whether we are to have a parson to preach, or a new roof to our "Joss" houses, without regard to the "respectful" phrasing of any future amendments. We need not go as far as our neighbours did in Shanghai, as Sir RICHARD REYNOLDS confessed recently, and say "we don't care a d—n whether the thing is regular or not," but at the same time, we want less "Parliamentary Practice" and more horse-sense displayed; we want to supply our requirements in the cheapest markets, and to be in a position enabling us when necessary to give a week's notice to those expensive nonentities the Crown Agents, or to our other local servants, the now pampered Government Officials. And we also want it to be understood that Hongkong is now quite old enough, and also capable enough, of knowing its own requirements and governing its own expenditure, and that it is by far the best judge as to what should be, and above all, what will be. This idea is already in motion, and is in very capable hands—more will be heard of it anon.

### THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA.

FOR some weeks past it has been an open secret in local commercial circles that active measures were on foot for the formation of a new bank on a large scale in Hongkong, with branches in the Straits Settlements, the Treaty Ports of China, and Japan, and elsewhere. The accuracy of the reports current has been amply demonstrated, and the National Bank of China, Limited, is now for all practical purposes an established fact. The capital of this rival to the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation is one million sterling, and of the first issue of half a million, \$300,000—49,925 ordinary shares of £10 each and 750 founders' shares of £1 each—were offered for subscription in Hongkong, China, and the East; £200,000 being specially reserved for Europe. The subscription list closed on the 7th inst., and we are credibly informed that the applications not only greatly exceeded the anticipations of the Directors, but were far in excess of the number of shares available for allotment.

The object of the National Bank of China is fairly indicated by its name, and as general bankers and finance agents, with its headquarters in this colony and under the guidance of an able chief manager, assisted by an efficient staff, the prospects of securing a fair share of whatever business may be going is undeniable. But this Bank has peculiar advantages over all rivals. It has been founded under the direct auspices of the most influential Chinese in the Empire, and has been guaranteed the support of the Viceroy LI HUNG-CHANG and other officials of the highest rank. There would, indeed, seem to be very little doubt that the vast volume of Chinese financial business will in future be negotiated through this Bank, and in view of projected railways, and the opening of mines all over the country, in addition to extensive water-work, and reclamation schemes for Canton and other large cities, many of which have already been sanctioned and are in course of active preparation, operations are likely in the very near future to assume almost gigantic proportions. And though we consider that the huge profits realised during the past eighteen months by the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank were mainly fictitious and unreliable, and calculated in many respects to beguile the unwary who were not behind the scenes and did not enjoy the secret confidence of the "Supreme Dictator" who "boasted" the show as he thought fit without restraint or interference from the Court of Directors, there are, nevertheless, good grounds for believing that the National Bank of China has a paying field of operations ready at hand, and every prospect of a successful career as the leading banking institution in the Far East.

Of course the promoters of the new concern disclaim all rivalry with the great local Bank, but such a disclaimer means absolutely nothing. It is inevitable that with such a powerfully supported rival in the field the business of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank must be materially affected, to what extent, it is at present impossible even to guess, but there can be no denying that the Court of Directors and the immediate supporters of that somewhat dubiously constituted *Sanhedrin* have exhibited a feeling of bitterness towards their opponents which, if somewhat mean and contemptible, is at least comprehensible when viewed in

the light of old custom in Hongkong. Honourable rivalry in business, as in most other things, is an unknown quantity here; the dog-in-the-manger policy is all but universally recognised and strictly carried out whenever possible and, therefore, the back-handed abuse so freely bestowed by a rabid mob of interested schemers on the promoters of the National Bank of China is not so very surprising. It is not our province to draw any invidious comparison between the qualities, social status, influence, etc., of the gentlemen forming the respective Boards of the two rival Banks; but if there is anything meaner or more contemptible on the face of the earth than the "Court" of the Hongkong Bank in its administrative capacity, we should like to know where it is to be found. The National Bank of China, it is expected, will start active operations in this colony within three months of the present date. We wish it every prosperity.

### LOCAL AND GENERAL.

H.M.S. *Imperieuse*, Capt. Poff, left the harbour on the 14th inst. on a trial trip, after undergoing a general overhaul.

Mr. T. H. Vale, of the firm of Evans, Vale & Co. Shanghai, was found dead in bed on the morning of the 10th inst. He had not been well for a day or two. Death was due to syncope.

CAPTAIN H. M. JONES, H. B. M.'s Minister Resident at the Court of Siam, arrived here on the 14th inst. from Bangkok, having come over in search of health, in the *Somdech Phra Nang*.

The south-west monsoon, judging by the reports of vessels entering this port during the past fortnight, is setting in fast and a strong S.W. current is to be met with in the region of Turnabout and the Paracels.

An enterprising company has been formed in Tokyo to take over unoccupied islands in the Pacific. Rajah Francis, Q.C., might do a little business with them if he hasn't found a goldmine in his wilderness in Borneo yet—or has.

The body of a Chinaman was found floating in the harbour on the afternoon of the 13th inst. near Yau-ma-tei by a *lukung*. The deceased had evidently been in the water some considerable time, as his features were beyond recognition. St. Peter alone knows who he was.

The interminable *cause célèbre* known as "the Rustomjee Bankruptcy" was again the subject of a good deal of legal chatter at the Supreme Court on the 14th inst., and resulted in another adjournment, this time to the 1st proximo, to allow time for the filing of properly audited accounts showing the bankrupt's business record up to the time of his adjudication.

IN Saturday's *Gazette* the Acting Harbour-master notifies that as the Provisions of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1890, will take effect in this Colony from the 1st June next, shipowners should at once take steps to mark their ships as required by the Act before that date, and, whilst vessels are in dock, apply for certificates of approval from the Board of Trade officer.

A CORRESPONDENT wants to know who concocted the Post-Office Report for 1890, published in our columns on the 14th inst.—Traverser or Sercombe Smith? What "cacophonous chair-bearers" are? Who translated the French despatches from Vienna, Mexico, and the Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs? and what the Report is intended to convey and what useful purpose it is likely to serve? We give it up.

AN American contemporary tells us that "the Chinese Government has engaged a German official named Lieske to establish an extensive brick manufacturing near Hongkong. The object of the Government in starting these works is to prevent the building of frame houses in crowded sections of cities, centuries of experience with wooden buildings being very disastrous." Another instance of having to go far abroad to get news of home.

H.M.S. *Archer*, Commander J. Ferris, arrived yesterday morning from the west coast of Africa, from which station she has been transferred to the China squadron. She is a twin screw cruiser of the 3rd class, 1,770 tons, 15,500 H.P., and carries 10 guns. She was commissioned at Devonport in December 1888. She replaces the *Cordellie* on the China Station, and was to have been relieved on her late station by the ill-fated *Serpent*, which foundered off Cape Finisterre whilst on her passage out.

MR. GEO. C. MILN'S Dramatic Company, which left for Shanghai by the English mail steamer early on the morning of the 14th instant, will open for a season at the Lyceum Theatre, the Midland Settlement, or, if convenient, at the Midland Settlement, on or about Saturday. It is contemplated to visit Kobe and Yokohama, and Mr. Miln hopes to arrange to perform before the Mikado in Tokyo. On returning to Hongkong the Company will produce a number of novelties, including "Julius Caesar," "Richelieu," "The Fool's Revenge," etc.

THE return of the *Kiangwan*, after a thorough overhaul to the Canton river service, followed by the *debut* of the new river steamer *Tai-on*, on the same route, has resulted in a decided reduction of fares—much to the delight of the "heavenly Chinese" who freely admit that opposition is the life of trade. The Steamboat Co.'s boats now carry Chinese on the lower deck, at ten cents per capita, while the night boats carry them to and from Canton for 20 cents each. First-class Chinese passengers are taken for 50 cents instead of a dollar, as heretofore. Added to this Chinese shippers inform us that they can now send cargo by the Steamboat Co.'s vessels at 10 per cent. less than formerly, which brings the charge for general cargo down to the *Kiangwan's* and *Tai-on's* rates. On the Canton-Macao run, too, there has been a heavy reduction made in passengers' fares, the China Merchants' steamer *Kang Ping* having reduced the charge for Chinese from 50 cents per head to 20 cents; the opposition boat, *White Cloud*, has come down to the same level and is carrying all the cargo and passengers at the latter figure. What a prospect for business will end it is difficult to determine at present, but sure it is that this desperate attempt to "run off" the Chinese-owned vessels, while the latter, having substantial Chinese backing, are doing what they claim is a rattling business, turning in at least 8 per cent. on capital invested. But when will the foreign passengers get trustworthy rates?

THE return of the number of visitors to the City Hall Museum for the week ending April 13th, are—Europeans 168, and Chinese 1,091; total 2,259.

MR. T. Lloyd Williams, the well-known Editor of the *Bangkok Times*, arrived here on the 14th inst. on a short visit. He reports very favorably of general prospects in the "Land of the White Elephant."

THE Scottish Oriental Co.'s steamer *Montpelier*, Capt. G. Anderson, which arrived here from Portland, Oregon, on the 8th inst., is, we hear, to resume her old place on the Bangkok line to-day, her charter by the Canadian-Pacific Company having expired.

OUR friend Norman, of *Pall Mall Gazette* fame, is likely to find that it is not all gold that glitters in Siamese concessions. The *Star* *Gazette* hears that under even difficulties are arising which are likely to lessen the magnificent prospects which he had flattered himself all too soon, would place him in the lap of luxury.

MR. CHARLES PEARSON, second officer of the American ship *Gen. Admiral*, met with a somewhat serious accident on Sunday last, whilst superintending the weighing of the anchor. Just as it was lifted and being swung "in bight" the chain of the derrick gave way and carried him round the arm, breaking it above the elbow. He is at present in the Civil Hospital.

MR. H. M. BUCHER will perhaps feel a thrill of pleasure that, like the gentleman Gilbert tells us of, "he is an Englishman," when he learns that the shareholders of the Osaka Railway Company, at a special general meeting held recently, decreed that the officials of the railway should raise the money to complete the line. For "line" read "mine," Mr. B.

GOOD news for our local Dock Company. The Siamese Government, says the *Bangkok Times*, is seriously thinking of augmenting its fleet by the purchase of one or two more vessels of the *Raja Kumarn* type. Our contemporary adds that Siam is quietly becoming possessed of a very respectable little navy, and the rising generation are being taught to become smart sailors.

POLITICIANS are the same all the world over, from Trafalgar to Tokyo. The owners of the *Yiji Shinbun* wanted to turn out the editor the other day, because he wasn't sufficiently enthusiastic in the Liberal cause, but he wouldn't budge, and now he and his "successor" with their rival staff, are issuing opposition *Yiji's*, each claiming to be the only authoritative organ. Mr. Parnell and *United Ireland* are not in it.

MR. E. W. MATTIAND, Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial Hospital, begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the funds of the hospital:—Arnold, Karberg, & Co., \$100; Holliday Wise & Co., \$100; Reiss & Co., \$100; E. D. Sassoon & Co., \$100; Siemssen & Co., \$100; Gilman & Co., \$100; Melchers & Co., \$100; W. G. Humphreys & Co., \$15; E. S. Wheeler, \$10; Mak Lai Tong, \$10; Officers, *Steamer Poken*, \$10; J. Gomes, \$10; and V. Carcen, \$5.

THE Hon. E. Trotter, Auditor-General of the Straits Settlements, has been distinguishedly himself in a new direction. A few days ago he invaded the French Consulate, with a couple of native police, and arrested eight natives who, with a crowd of friends, were celebrating the marriage of a peon employed there. At the head and front of their offending was only that they were all reading the *Koran* as the top of their voices, the "prisoners" were discharged, and now Mr. Trotter is wishing he had gone a little slower.

THE schoolmaster hasn't got as far abroad as the humble domicile of Yee On, washerman, or he would never have written to bribe a patron, a day or two ago, as follows:—

Sir—I have the honor to inform you that as I am much obliged to you for kindness to look out me and give me such work to do and I can't bring you any good chance. Now I have a clock (presumably a suit) and a muff-tack (clever-links) to present to you, please you will receive it with much oblige.

LAST Saturday afternoon six companies from the 91st Regiment, with a portion of the Sikh Artillery and three guns manned by members of the Volunteer Corps, took part in a sham attack at Deep Water Bay. Col. Chater commanded the combined forces, Capt. McCallum, having charge of the Volunteers. The latter had a most arduous task before them in placing their guns on a steeply covered ridge, but they did it with great expedition, and some marvellously good gunnery was exhibited. A very strong demonstration was witnessed in one respect, in the amalgamation with the Volunteer Ambulance Corps of a squad of native students from the Alice Memorial Hospital—the first time that trained Chinese, combatant or otherwise, have marched under the British flag. Dr. Cantlie, to whom the idea of making the combination is, we believe, due, organized a series of supposititious cases of wounded soldiers, who, between the Volunteer Ambulance Corps and the contingent of students, were soon attended to in a way which even the General had to praise.

RECENT information received about the picking of the new leaf from the various tea districts, says the *Fochoo Echo*, is truly lamentable, in fact it is so bad that one is almost inclined to believe that no new teas can be expected in the market. We know that natives have the unenviable reputation of being capable of spreading false news. But, after allowing a hundred per cent. of what we have been informed to be false, there yet remains a very gloomy prospect for the native tea hongs here, and for the growers in the country. Of the former, we understand, that only two hongs out of ten have made some very small advances to those tea-men of good standing, and these under conditions that the costs shall not exceed those ruling last season. This no doubt is a wise step, as it will prevent the usual competition in the hills, which may be fairly assumed to have been the chief cause why teas were laid down in this market at such high prices every year. It is also further stated that a well-known and wealthy tea hong has refused in toto to grant any advances, nor does this hong care to have anything to do with tea at all during the approaching season. This action has disappointed many tea-men, who are now entirely without hope of obtaining any advances. From the country we learn that, owing to the establishment of a low scale of wages, much difficulty has been created in obtaining laborers, and we understand that many of these have left the tea districts in search of other work. In fact the whole business is in an unsatisfactory state, that the amount of tea which has been sent up country does not exceed five hundred thousand dollars (merely a drop in the ocean). This will, it is said, result in a great extension of the gathering of, at least, the first crop, less cannot be gathered.



THE result of the mortality in Hongkong during 1890, as compiled by the Secretary of the Sanitary Board, shows that the death-rate among the British and foreign community equaled 25.5 per 1,000, and that among the Chinese 33.2.

THE ten largest cities in the world, according to latest returns, are: London, Paris, New York, Canton, Berlin, Vienna, Tokio, Chicago, Philadelphia, St. Petersburg. In the order mentioned. A Chinese official of high rank informed us the other day that the estimated population of Canton was close upon three millions.

THE following express was circulated in Shanghai on the 8th inst.:—"To-day being the anniversary of the dedication of the statue of Sir Harry Parkes, it is proposed to hold a Public Meeting at the base of the statue this afternoon to pray him to send down some of his spirit to the present Foreign representatives at Peking."

THE late Duke of Bedford sat in the House of Commons for twenty-five years, and in the House of Lords for eighteen years, in all a Parliamentary career of forty-three years, without opening his lips. We have honorable gentlemen on the Legislative Council, gentlemen attached to the Service, who would not originate even an idea as to the price of a pair of gloves if they lived to be a thousand. And when it comes to forgetting—!!!

THE ricksha is not an unadulterated blessing, but it is somewhat surprising to hear of attempts to put it down by Act of Parliament, as was proposed in Japan recently. One's experience of them in Hongkong often causes the very improper notion to grow that the coolies might be severely and jointly taken out to sea and drowned, or sacrificed on a funeral pile composed of their own hideous vehicles; but they are handy if one is in a hurry, all the same.

A HUNG iron pontoon was launched at the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co.'s yards at Hungnam on the 13th inst. It was built to the order of the "powers" that will be used in the Praya Reclamation Scheme, and will be fitted with a crane capable of lifting eight tons. The pontoon, owing to its close resemblance in form to a well-known Russian vessel which was named after Admiral Popoff, her designer, although not formally christened, is called the *Popoff*. She draws but two feet of water, and will be ready for service at an early date.

A SMALL regiment of correspondents have got to be disappointed to-day, the day of miracles is over. They don't doubt that naked people have no right to bask off Tim-lai-tai in broad daylight; and that shipping agents ought to pay more respect to officers of ships who die alone and friendless than to bury them like paupers; and we wonder, with our anonymous friend who writes so badly, how it is that the Postmaster-General only credits *Banyard* with the declaration of \$20,000, instead of \$36,000. We are with you in spirit, gentlemen, but our paper is small, and our waste-paper basket gigantic.

A PLEASING little ceremony was performed at the Shanghai Masonic Club on the 6th inst., says the *N. C. Daily News*, when Dr. Sloan, who has been president of the Club for the past two years, was presented with a handsome marble mantle time-piece as a token of the appreciation in which he is held by the members. Mr. Kingsmill was the spokesman on the occasion and gave some particulars of the state of the Club two years ago, and its flourishing condition now, which he said was attributable to a great measure to Dr. Sloan. The latter replied and stated that whenever he heard the clock strike, he would be reminded of the Club.

THE feverish debate that arose a few days ago, as to whether a dinner at the Hongkong Hotel strongly resembled a dog-fight or not, has extended to Singapore. There, however, they understand the art of agitating better than we do here, for the poet of the *Press* lifts up his voice in the following poem—*Al, "Never again!"* in five flats and no elevator—

Once more our meat is Mutton rich and tender,  
Not as we fed on in the bygone days,  
When Skin and Bone, and Chickens very slender,  
Were all we got—served up in various ways.  
Once more the Beef is not as tough as leather,  
Once more we feel our appetite again;  
Never to grumble—only at the weather,  
Never to think of bygone weeks of pain.

WE have it on unquestionable authority that there is not the slightest foundation for the silly report published by our esteemed evening contemporary on Friday last, to the effect that the captain and chief engineer of the Chinese steamer *Cass* left their ship Shanghai recently after their collision with the *Old Dock* caused by the *Cass's* collision with the dock gate. The *Cass* arrived here on Saturday with her old captain and chief engineer on board, neither of whom had heard anything about the "squeeze play" until their arrival in this port. It is incredible that the Governor of Formosa would attempt to extort money from foreigners. The "yarn" must have been set afloat by some Governor Liu's sympathetic friends.

VICTORIA Regina finds one of the chief comforts of her declining years in supervising the Court Circular, and at intervals her royal foot goes down scurrying upon the bruised organ which officiates as sub-editor of that high-toned organ. Nothing is expected of the sub. save strict attention to detail and a proper capacity for correcting his Sovereign Lady's orthography, and touching up her syntax, which latter very apt to get under the Queen's cover when she is writing by a Maid of Honor, or a Groom of the Bedchamber, or some person of that description, to the office in London, where the sub. is waiting with a wet towel, and ready to hand her to print slips stating that "Her Majesty took gentle walking exercise," and "The Hereditary Grand Duke Nincompoop has left the Castle," which slips are nightly issued to a few London newspapers, previous to being collected into a solemn weekly issue of the Circular. When the Queen happens to be staying at Windsor, she glances over her handiwork each morning, and if any German prince has lost a few of his titles in the setting-up she orders the mistake to be rectified in next day's bit of Circular, and sees that the correction is stopped pending the correction, and when the full edition appears it is, of course, free from blemish. Sometimes, however, circumstances over which she has no control cause an error to appear in the weekly issue, the actual official of England's greatness. Then, Victoria, by the Grace of God, not deigning to set matters right through the sub-editor, sends telegrams direct to the daily papers from Scotland, or Germany, or wherever she was staying when the awful mistake occurred, and the sub. turns pale as he sees a paragraph of this description glaring at him from the columns of the *Morning Post*:—"The statue of the late Emperor Frederick of Germany was unveiled by the Queen on Thursday last, immediately before, and not after, the last anthem was sung in the service which was performed, as was erroneously stated in the Court Circular." The Queen's correction is wrongly worded, and from a literary point of view, isn't a correction at all, but it makes her sub. feel bad.

THE *Empress of India*, which arrived at Shanghai on the 9th inst., made the run from Hongkong to Shanghai in under 48 hours, the previous best time being the *Orizaba's* 49 hours, 5 minutes. She arrived at Wossung at 3.45 p.m., making the run from Hongkong to Wossung in 2 days 3 hours, an average speed for the whole distance of just under 16 knots.

THEY intend really having a railway in Siam. The Royal Railway Department have now officially asked for tenders for the construction of the Korat railway. Tenders are to be in the hands of the Railway Department before the 15th of June, and their acceptance will be notified before the first of July. The work of construction must be begun before the 1st of September, and the whole line must be completed before the 1st of August 1896.

THE new river steamer *Tai-on*, which made her maiden trip up to Canton in ballast last Friday, returned here on the 13th inst. and left on the night of the 13th for the City of Rams with a full complement of passengers. The *Tai-on's* owners having made arrangements with the proprietors of the *Passé* wharf, the new Canton night-boat will start from that wharf every alternate evening at 10 o'clock. It is rumoured that the Siam Company's steamer *Kiung* will be put on to run in opposition to the *Tai-on*.

WE have the pleasure to acknowledge receipt of a pamphlet entitled "The History of the Sunday Labour Question in Hongkong." The work, which is very neatly printed, contains carefully compiled facts respecting attempts to bring about the abolition of old-time slavery in this colony. As soon as time permits we shall review this pamphlet, which is, as far as we can see at present, a credit to the British Mercantile Marine Officers' Association and its President, Capt. Samuel Ashton, under whose direction the work has been issued.

THE Hongkong Rifle Association competition for the Short Range Cup and Spoon held on the 13th inst. was marked by some really good shooting, especially at the 200 yards. Sgt. W. Robertson, H.K.P., won the cup and 300 yards spoon, Lieut. E. Martin R.N. winning the 200 yards spoon. There were 14 competitors, and the seven best scores are appended—

Sgt.	Yds.	Total	Hits	Aggregate.
Sgt. Robertson, H.K.P.	200	11	61	6
Lt. E. Martin, R.N.	200	11	54	5
Sgt. J. T. Todd	200	11	54	5
Lt. E. Martin, R.N.	200	11	54	5
Mr. R. Smith	200	11	54	5
Mr. C. G. F. Moore	200	11	54	5
Sgt. A. Mann, H.K.P.	200	11	54	5

At the Regular Meeting of the United. Chamber, No. 1341, E.C. held on Saturday evening last, E. Comp. W. Baker was installed into the Chair of M.E.Z. M.E. Comp. W. M. B. Arthur and E. Comp. G. J. W. King being invested as "H." and "J." respectively, by M. E. Comp. L. Malloy. M. E. Comp. W. Baker afterwards invested the following as office bearers for the year—

Comp. J. R. Grimble.....Treasurer.
Joseph White.....Scribe E.
J. E. Kelly.....Scribe N.
T. Spafford.....P.S.
H. A. Sherazee.....Asst. Sec.
H. A. Inglis.....Asst. Sec.
W. Biddgood.....D. of C.
S. T. Moore.....Steward.
J. Maxwell.....Janitor.

WE learn that telegraphic advice has been received by the Balmoral Gold Mining Co., Ltd., from their Sydney agent, reporting all the drills and battery (20 stamps) to be working. Written advice dated the 10th and 21st March were received per *Guthrie*, Mr. Chaplin, the Company's assayer at the mine, reports having made assays of "Selection" and "Vale" tailings which gave the following results—

Tailings from "Selection" Battery.	or. dwt.	grs.
No. 1.....	1	6
" 2.....	1	12
" 3.....	1	15
Tailings from "Vale" Battery.		
No. 1.....	2	3
" 2.....	1	19
" 3.....	2	17

On this subject Mr. Gregory writes as follows:—"The assays of a large heap of tailings at 'Vale' are too good to be true, and I have asked Mr. Walton (the Mining Manager) to pick half a dozen samples and have check assays made, which no doubt will be included in his next report. There are fully 8,000 tons at the Vale. The other assays, from Oliver's freehold, are for the tailings left over after Eudown's (the late Mining Manager) crushing of the first stone mined by the Co." On receipt of the above written advice the following telegram was despatched from here on the 14th inst.:—"Telegraphic corrected assays 'Selection' and 'Vale' tailings," and the answer received to-day is as follows:—"Both average 1 ounce 13 dwt. per ton."

THE passengers by the *Somdech Phra Nang*, which arrived this morning (14th inst.) from Bangkok, had plenty of excitement for their money. About 180 Chinese came over in her, and two of them took the opportunity of dying shortly after leaving Bangkok. Their bodies were duly coffined and put below the fore-deck, but in three or four days the odour became simply awful, despite the constant current of air which the steamer's motion caused. About 10.30 last night, however, she came to anchor some thirty miles out, the weather being thick, and in the calm which ensued the late lamented made their way together to the pier. When one of the European passengers became quite ill through the stench, Capt. R. Jones thought that he had respected the Celestial's objection to be bumped when dead quite long enough, and he therefore told an officer to have the coffins heaved over the side. The order was passed on to the comprador, who only made some pretence of complying and then said "No can." The sailors, firemen, and cook alike refused to perform the unpleasant but necessary task, and at length the Europeans determined to do it themselves. By this time the Chinese passengers had been aroused, and, crowding on deck, assumed a menacing attitude. Seeing that, Capt. Jones prudently instructed the officers and passengers (one of whom was Capt. H. M. Jones, British Minister to Siam, who wears the Victoria Cross) to arm themselves. Then, with a revolver in one hand and a knife in the other, he and the mate pressed their way through the mob and got to the place where the coffins were. As they did so the Chinese jeered and insulted them, one man even going so far as to throw a heavy chair at Capt. Jones' head, fortunately without hitting him. The chief engineer fired a couple of shots over the men's heads when matters came to that pitch, which had the effect of clearing them away from the immediate vicinity. The door of the lower deck was then hastily opened by the engineers, and amid yells from the Chinese, the coffins were thrown into the sea. The Europeans meanwhile facing the crowd in a way which precluded the manufacture of more dead Chinamen if Winchester rifles had any efficacy. No collision occurred, however, thanks to Capt. R. Jones' prompt measures, and the men disembarked this morning as placidly as possible.

A PAUL "D" VERLAINE.  
After a blessed interval of silence,  
While he perhaps was sharpening up his pen  
Bursting upon us with a gentle violence,  
"D's" caresses is "on tick" again.  
Poor Paul Verlaine! he's not much of a poet,  
But scarcely has deserved so hard a time;  
Truly his good for him he does not know it,  
To be thus pilloried in such dreadful rhyme.  
Give us a rest; ah, most poetic D,  
More than enough already we have got,  
Your sacred muse is nothing really  
But dreary rubbish, most exceeding rot.

MR. CHALONER ALABASTER, British Consul-General at Canton, will leave for home on or about the 10th prox., and will be succeeded by Mr. T. Walters, at present Consul at Newchwang. It is probable that Mr. Alabaster will retire from the Consular Service, in which his record is unique, he having actually served 36 years in the East, or equal to 54 years in computing his pension. One of the ablest and most independent representatives of British interests that China has ever known, the veteran Consul-General, whose merits have received but tardy recognition from the Foreign Office, will be greatly missed, and we are hardly likely in this generation to see his like again.

In last night's (14th inst.) *Telegraph* we published the following problem—  
"My age, if multiplied by three,  
Two-sevenths of that product would tripled be,  
The square root of two-ninths of that is four,  
Now tell me my age or never see me more."  
A lady reader sends this solution—  
"Your age being twenty-eight, if multiplied by three,  
Will give the product eighty-four, as, all may plainly see;  
Two-sevenths tripled, produce the number, and no more,  
The square root of two-ninths of which is four."

## SUPREME COURT.

## IN BANKRUPTCY.

(Before Mr. C. F. A. Sangster, Acting Registrar.)

April 14th.

*In re* LEUNG AH YON.  
Leung Ah Yon, ship-chandler of Praya Central, was further examined. Mr. Wilkinson, of Messrs. Caldwell and Wilkinson, appeared for Lo Chi Hing, one of the largest creditors.

The bankrupt stated that \$10,000 was due from his branch firm in Penang. His Penang agents were not requested to collect that sum, for the reason that their house was closed up some months ago by an order of the court, in respect to a distraint for rent due to the landlord. All the book debts enumerated in the accounts filed last week were incurred during the past year. The larger items were for goods bought and paid for here, and sent down to his Penang agents for sale. The name of the Penang firm was Wo Li Tung. The partners, four in all, of the Wo Li Tung had disappeared to their homes in the interior of China. One of them, Ching Sing Po, was imprisoned in Hongkong about two years ago owing to his attempt to abscond, leaving behind him a debt of \$12,000 odd due to him, the bankrupt. He was subsequently liberated after giving four promissory notes of \$500 each, to him. He handed the said notes to Mr. William Wotton to collect on his behalf. Mr. Wotton said Ching Sing Po to recover on two of the notes, but he did not know whether anything was recovered. He thought nothing of the matter in respect of them, because the debtor "bolted" to his home in the province of Kwang-si. He did not think it necessary to enter the four promissory notes amongst his assets, and they were, therefore, omitted. His house, No. 31 Gough Street, was mortgaged long ago, but not to Mr. Wotton. He would get the four promissory notes from Mr. Wotton and hand them into Court. His store was closed eight months ago, owing to a creditor refusing to allow him time to find the money wherewith to pay him off. That was shortly after sending a large quantity of goods to Penang. \$10,000 were due to him from the Penang firm. The books of the Penang firm would soon arrive here, as also the accountant, named Yum Nan Shang. His bankruptcy was primarily due to the loss of about \$40,000 in share speculations during the past two years. At that time—eight months ago—he was "flushed" for a hundred dollars when he was not in possession of as much as \$20. He hoped his estate would turn out pretty well, and pay 30 cents in the dollar. His total liabilities amounted to about \$12,000, and his recoverable assets might reach about \$5,000.

After some perusal Lo Chi Hing, a creditor, agreed to take charge of the book debts, and endeavour to collect them with the authority of the Court.

Pressed for evidence to corroborate his assertion that the books of the Penang firm would soon be here, the bankrupt stated that a letter conveying news to that effect was in his house at Canton, and he would at once send up for it.

## IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

(Before Sir James Russell, Chief Justice.)

## A DISCUSSION ABOUT CHINESE ANCESTRAL WORSHIP.

The famous will case, over which Two Chang and others have squabbled since the year 1823 with his brother Tso Li Tong and others, was again the subject of a lengthy argument before the learned fraternity this morning. Mr. Leach, instructed by Mr. Bowles (of Messrs. Wotton and Deacon's office) appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. J. C. Philippo, instructed by Mr. Mosson, represented the defendant. Capt. Clayton, a mortgagee, and Mr. Bruce Shepherd, the Official Administrator of the estate, which comprises real estate in this Colony valued at about \$400,000.

reference to the appeal case Yeap Cheah Neo, appellant, versus Ong Cheang Neo, respondent, which Her Majesty's Privy Council decided in favour of the respondent, who had obtained a judgment in his favour in the Supreme Court at Penang, on an issue exactly similar to the one now raised by his (Mr. Leach's) clients. His lordship—Has there ever been a question of this kind discussed in this Court? Mr. Leach—I don't know, your lordship, but I doubt it. Mr. Philippo said that he and his clients were quite at one with Mr. Leach in wishing to have the eleventh (ancestral worship) share divided amongst the ten legacies of the testator, and he would be glad if his lordship would reserve judgment in order that the question of such division of one eleventh of the whole estate might be discussed between counsel, the Official Administrator, and the Receiver. His lordship, in adjourning the case, stated that he would deliver judgment at an early date.

## SUICIDE AT THE CENTRAL POLICE STATION.

About half-past eight this morning (14th inst.) Inspectors Quincey and Gauld and Acting Inspector Mann, who were in the charge room of the Central Police Station, were startled by hearing a loud report close at hand, and in a few moments, on opening the store, it was found that Richard Ryan, the convicted suicide by means of a Martini-Henri carbine. From the position in which the unfortunate man was found, it appears he must have held the carbine under his left lower jaw and pulled the trigger with his right hand, the bullet passing through his head, the upper portion of which was blown off, and blood and brains scattered around. The body was at once conveyed to the Government Mortuary, death having been instantaneous. The deceased was not seen as he entered the compound or into store, or the inspectors might have thought it strange to see him so early as he seldom commenced his daily duties till between 9 and 9.30 a.m. each day. There seems to be little room for doubt that he had taken every precaution not to be disturbed in his rash act. The deceased, who was about 46 years of age, was an Army pensioner, having served with the 60th Rifles, and only arrived in the Colony last May to take up the duties of musketry and drill instructor to the Hongkong Police Force. He leaves a widow, who arrived a little over two months since from England, but a family. The body was interred in the Protestant Cemetery, Happy Valley, on Tuesday afternoon.

INQUEST.  
An inquiry into the circumstances attending the death of Richard Ryan, storekeeper and musketry instructor at the Central Station, which occurred yesterday morning, was held at the Magistrate's this afternoon (15th inst.) by Mr. Wise, Acting Coroner.

Isabella E. Ryan said—My late husband was storekeeper and musketry instructor at the Central Police Station. I last saw him about a quarter to eight yesterday morning, when he left the house, No. 9, Police Station, to go to his work. Angus Mann, Acting Inspector of Police, said—About 8.30 a.m. I was on duty in the Charge-room at the Central Station, when I heard a sharp report. I thought it a cracker or something falling in the store, so I paid no attention to it. About ten minutes afterwards Inspector Quincey told me that Ryan had committed suicide in the store. I went there and saw the deceased lying on his face in a pool of blood, with a Martini-Henri carbine by his side. I examined the carbine and found it had been recently discharged, the bullet having passed through the middle of the spot where the body was found. I have known the deceased since his arrival from home ten months ago. I know nothing as to his character. I removed the body to the mortuary. Dr. Marques said—I saw the body shortly after death, in the mortuary. The skull was fractured in several parts and the face disfigured caused by a bullet wound, death being instantaneous.

Hip Quan, P.C. 276 said—I am attached to the Police store. About 8.40 a.m. yesterday I went in to see and see the deceased lying on his face on the floor. I called him thinking he was asleep, and receiving no answer I stepped nearer to him and saw a quantity of blood. I then ran out and informed Inspector Quincey. Inspector Gauld said—At 8.40 I was on the verandah of the Police store. I heard that Ryan had shot himself. I went in the store and saw the deceased lying there quite dead. Deceased formerly belonged to the First Rifle Brigade. He joined the Police on the 23rd May, 1890, and was about fifty years of age. During that time he had been very intemperate, and he was recently in hospital through the effects of drink. I last saw him alive on the night previous. He kept the key of the store. From the position of the body I think the deceased shot himself. His worship—I find that death resulted from a self-inflicted bullet wound.

## THE POST OFFICE REPORT FOR 1890.

The following report by the Postmaster-General for 1890 was laid on the table of the Legislative Council on Friday last—

General Post Office,  
Hongkong, 6th March, 1891.

Sir,—In presenting my report on the British Postal Service in Hongkong and China during the year 1890, I have the pleasure to inform you that the heavy loss sustained through the death of the late Postmaster-General, Mr. Lister, who, from the date of his appointment in April, 1875, till the day he left Hongkong upon his last and fatal voyage in July, devoted a large portion of his experience and energy to the conduct of Postal matters. By his staff he will always be remembered for his urbanity, insistence on details and personal capacity for work; whilst the public found in him the embodiment of civility and an officer always ready to redress legitimate grievances, and carry out practical popular reforms and proposals.

2.—The Department has lost another zealous servant in the person of Mr. A. J. Rodriguez, the second clerk, who joined the staff in February, 1890.

3.—During the year, the personnel of the Department has undergone considerable change. When I went on leave in April 1890, Mr. T. Sercombe-Smith supplied my place and proved of valuable assistance to Mr. Lister, who was for the next few months confined to his room and bed. Upon Mr. Lister's decease, I was appointed Acting Postmaster-General with Mr. Smith as second in command. On the 22nd March the withdrawal from the colony of Z. M. Barradas, the Superintendent of the Money Order Department, led to an investigation of his accounts which showed heavy defalcations on his part. This officer was later on brought back to Hongkong and at the June Criminal Sessions sentenced to three years' hard labour. His successor, Mr. H. W. Dixon, who was appointed on the 1st May, has hitherto satisfactorily performed his duties. The adoption of a new system of checks upon the administration of the Money Order Department has placed the recurrence of frauds similar to those lately enacted beyond the pale of likelihood.

4.—The Staff consists of 45 persons, comprising:—1 Postmaster-General, 1 Assistant Postmaster-General, 1 Accountant, 2 Money Order Clerks, 3 Marine Officers, 3 Chinese Assistants for Marine Officers, 11 Clerks, 3 Senior Chinese, 7 Postmen, 3 Peak and Kowloon Postmen, 6 Messengers, 3 Launch Crew, total 45. To every officer I thank are due, but especially to Messrs. Rocha and Machado, whose thorough intimacy with the whole range of postal concerns has proved invaluable.

5.—The Consular Postal Agents in the various coast and river ports have sustained their character for ability and zeal, and it was the most pleasing act of my last year's tenure of office to announce to them that the Secretary of State for the Colonies had yielded to their reiterated requests for an increase of salary. Agency in the course of 1890, the honorary Agency at Hailow was converted into a salaried Agency, whilst the Agency at Tientsin, on the recommendation of the late Mr. Lister, was discontinued. The postal matter passing through the hands of the Agent at that Port was inconsiderable, most of the correspondence being transmitted through the Chinese Customs channels.

7.—I had occasion to address the Government upon the often mentioned topic of illicit Chinese Post Offices which flourish in the Chinese parts of Victoria. It will be remembered that I recommended that the right to establish such Post Offices should be farmed out, and that I expressed an opinion that no other way of bringing the Chinese under a Postal System approximating to that to which the European colonies are subjected was possible so long as China possessed no Postal Administration of her own. The plan proposed will in no way interfere with the peculiar postal facilities hitherto enjoyed by the sons of Han, but will secure to Government a portion of the takings which formerly enriched private individuals.

There is another subject to which I refer after report from this Department has called attention. To no other Department of the Public Service, I presume, is room of more importance than to the Postal Department, yet there is no Department in which there is less space in proportion to requirements. It is only necessary to point to the extensive postal premises at Sydney, with a population of 225,000, at Singapore, with a population of 150,000, and at Durban, with a population of 25,000 to demonstrate that Hongkong, with a population of 200,000, is not marching with the time in the matter of a commodious Post Office. The Assistant Postmaster-General has to be content with a little stool and a desk in a recess which overlooks a stand frequented by cacophonous chair-bearers. When the European and American mails are despatched on the same morning, the throng of people attempting to buy stamps and post letters has necessitated the stationing of an officer to divert the stream of Chinese to the back of the Post Office, where a counter for the sale of stamps has been extemporised. The internal dimensions of the Post Office, which may have sufficed for the necessities of a quarter of a century ago, are now wholly inadequate, and may be seen by any one who likes to spend an hour contemplating the sorting and disposal of a French mail.

9.—The number of Dead Letters which have to be opened in the Department to discover the sender is considerable. In many cases there is neither an address nor a signature; it then becomes necessary to peruse the body of the communication in search of some indication of the source of the letter. In this way no little time is consumed and much that was intended for a private view comes under the official gaze. Where the letters emanate from mercantile houses, their origin can almost always be traced by the presence of initials stamped on the envelope, and if private individuals would only put their names on the cover of every letter they wrote, they would have the satisfaction of receiving back their undelivered correspondence in an unimpaired condition. Soldiers and sailors' letters always bear the name of the sender on the envelope, with the result that the members of Her Majesty's land and sea forces have their dead letters restored to them intact.

10.—I have to chronicle the reduction in rates of postage to the Cape Colony, which began on the 23rd of August and by which letters are now carried for 20 cents instead of 30 cents the half ounce.

11.—Negotiations are now in progress with the object of establishing a system of Parcels Post Insurance between Hongkong and the United Kingdom, and of instituting a direct exchange of Money Orders and closed Parcels between this Colony and the Dominion of Canada. The Insurance scheme is sure to command public favour, whilst the advantages of the direct exchange with Canada by means of the new "Empress" steamers over the devious route via London are palpable.

12.—For the benefit of the Peak residents, a new mail signal station has been inaugurated at the Mount Gough Police Barracks, which are in a central position and visible to all houses on the southern slopes, even to those situated at Magazine Gap.

13.—Another familiar topic is that of the French Mail and the Marine Sorters. In my report for 1889 I said that the settlement of the question in the direction desired may be expected very shortly. I was guided by a letter from the French Consul dated the 22nd May, 1889, in which His Excellency the Governor (copy attached). Since then, however, a further letter (copy attached) has been received withdrawing this concession.

14.—As I pointed out in my report for 1889, it would accelerate the delivery of mails very much if this Department were placed in direct communication with Cape Colony and Ceylon. The arrival of steamers could then be telephoned and the launch would at once be despatched to convey the mails on shore.

15.—International statistics to regulate the payments for sea and territorial conveyance of mails during three years were taken during the month of May.

16.—The early period of the year at which this report is submitted precludes the possibility of giving a detailed statement of the finances of the Department for 1890.

The revenue for 1889 was as follows—	
Gross Revenue, 1889.....	\$144,300.11
Deficit.....	20,818.15
	\$165,117.26

Share of United Kingdom.....	\$72,568.93
Contribution towards P. and O. sub-sidy.....	45,870.31
Share of other Countries.....	54,041.39
Conveyance of Mails.....	7,913.37
Working Expenses.....	43,164.86
	\$163,527.26

\$36,556.29 paid France for 24 years from April, 1886, to December, 1888.

17.—The number of parcels received and despatched during the year is as follows—

Inward Outward. Total.	
By P. & O. Packet.....	9,219 5,125 14,344
By German Packet.....	349 151 500
	9,568 5,276 14,844

The total number despatched and received in 1889 was 15,173. The heaviest outward mail was despatched at Christmas, and totalled 1,500 parcels, whilst the heaviest inward mail was

the New Year mail by which 772 parcels were received.

18.—The amount of Peak and Kowloon correspondence carried during 1890 is shown by the subjoined figures—

	Sent to	Received from
Peak.....	4,801	8
Kowloon.....	1,813	128

I have pleasure in thanking the Manager of the High Level Tramway Company for the facilities granted to the Peak Postmen.

19.—Approximate Statistics for 1890 are annexed, and are corroborative of the growing decrease in the number of unpaid and short paid articles and parcels.

I have the honour to be, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,  
ARTHUR K. TRAVERS,  
Postmaster-General.

The Honourable W. M. Deane, C.M.G., Acting Colonial Secretary &c. &c.

(Translation.)  
French Consulate,  
Victoria, Hongkong, 2nd May, 1889.

Sir,—The French Government have been pleased in response to the expressed wishes of the Colony of Hongkong, to entertain with favour the delicate proposal made to them of placing a British Mail Agent on board the packet boats of the Messageries Maritimes for the purpose of sorting, between Saigon and Hongkong, correspondence intended for the latter colony or for transportation to North China.

Such officer would be taken on board on the following conditions—  
1.—The upper mail room in the "batterie" would be placed at his disposal, and would be fitted up for use as an office, but only between Saigon and Hongkong. The agent would besides have the free enjoyment of a first class cabin from Singapore to Hongkong and vice versa, and would be admitted to the same table as first class passengers upon payment of one half of the usual tariff.

Instructions have been sent by the Messageries Maritimes to its agency at Marseilles to effect the necessary alteration on board the packets of the Messageries Maritimes. I shall be obliged if His Excellency will inform me whether the Colonial Government consents to these terms, and if it does, from what date they may come into operation.

I have the honour to be, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,  
J. B. BAUDRE,  
Agent of the Messageries Maritimes.

His Excellency Sir Geo. W. Des Voeux, K.C.M.G., Governor of Hongkong, &c., &c. &c. (Translation.)  
French Republic,  
Consulate, Paris, 5th February, 1890.

Sir,—This Administration has just learned that the Colonial authorities of Hongkong, in the name of your office, have recently taken fresh steps to secure the admission on board the packet boats of the Messageries Maritimes of a British agent, who would start from Singapore and sort correspondence intended for Hongkong. It is the great desire to contribute as much as lay in his power to the improvement of the postal service of Hongkong, this Administration had actually taken the scheme into consideration, notwithstanding the very serious inconveniences which might result to the French service from its adoption.

In consequence, however, of the abandonment (notification) of the Anglo-French Postal Convention of the 24th September, 1856, it has seemed proper to postpone the carrying out



substituted therefor the following "or by advertisement or otherwise."

Mr. Gillies seconded, carried unanimously. Mr. C. I. Watson proposed the fifth resolution:—

That the capital of the Company be increased to \$250,000 by the creation of 1,500 new shares of \$50 each, such increase to be made up by the conversion into capital of \$20,000 of the Reserve Fund, or the investments thereof, and \$25,000 of the present profits or earnings of the Company.

Mr. C. A. Tones seconded, and this also being carried unanimously, the meeting terminated.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

(We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by correspondents in this column.)

## THE WATER SUPPLY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."—SIR,—I am directed to forward you for your information the enclosed copy of a letter addressed to the Honorable The Colonial Secretary respecting the present scarcity of the Water Supply, and to request you to insert the following notification in the next issue of your paper.

I have the honour to be, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,  
FRANCIS A. COOPER,  
Resident Engineer,  
Hongkong, April 14th, 1891.

## GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

It is hereby notified for public information that, in view of the present condition of the Water Supply, on and after Wednesday the 15th inst. the water will be turned on to the city between the hours of 6 and 10 a.m. only, until further notice.

By command,  
W. M. DEANE,  
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Water and Drainage Department

Resident Engineer's Office,  
Hongkong, April 13th, 1891.

SIR,—I have the honour to report that the rapid fall of water in the Tytarm and Pokfulam Reservoirs still continues and I calculate that at the present rate of consumption the water will last for another 12 days.

In view of the present condition of the water supply I recommend for the favourable consideration of His Excellency the Governor that on and after Wednesday next the water will be turned on to the city between the hours of 6 and 10 a.m. only, instead of, as at present, the hours of 6 and 10 a.m. and 6 and 9 p.m., and that the alteration be advertised in the local papers.

I am bound to admit that this is a heavy restriction, but a little water is better than no water at all, and I regret to say that in the absence of heavy rains occurring shortly, the city at the present rate of consumption must very soon be limited to the quantity of water flowing down the streams.

I have the honour to be, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,  
FRANCIS A. COOPER,  
Resident Engineer.  
The Hon. The Colonial Secretary.

## NORTH CHINA INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the fourteenth ordinary general meeting of shareholders to be held at the office of the Company, Shanghai, on Monday next, is as follows:—

The Directors beg to submit to the shareholders the annexed duly audited statement of the Company's accounts to 31st December 1890. 1890.—No further profit has accrued in respect of this year, the accounts of which have now been closed by the transfer of Tael 17,746.29 to Liability Account, in accordance with the resolution, passed at the last meeting.

The sum of Tael 747,906.2 has been divided, as the result of the year's working, as follows:—  
Dividend of 10 per cent. upon the paid-up capital.....Tael 115,395.43  
Bonus of 15 per cent. on share-holders' contributions.....Tael 132,565.19

1890.—The position of this account has not improved since the previous meeting of shareholders, the losses of the first half-year having been followed by further severe casualties. The balance of the Working Account on 31st December amounted to Tael 667,417.23, but since that date losses and claims to the extent of Tael 381,051.58 have been incurred, and as there is a large amount of unexpired risks outstanding, the Directors regret to have to recommend that the declaration of dividends be deferred for consideration until the ordinary general meeting in October.

As provided by the regulations of the Company, the Directors will retire at the close of the meeting, but, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. Augustus White and Mr. Andrew Burman, who also holds and again offer their services to the shareholders.

By order of the Court of Directors,  
ALEX. ROSS,  
Secretary.

Shanghai, 9th April 1891.

## FORMOSA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Tamsui, 24th April, 1891.

On the 28th ult., the Foreign residents of Hobe were invited by the Rev. Dr. Mackay to witness a very interesting function—a native wedding & *Angliat*, the contracting parties being *Pokhwan* (savage of the plains). The ceremony took place in the native chapel, and was attended by many natives of the half of the foreign community. As a prelude to the ceremony, short addresses were delivered by the Rev. Doctor's numerous staff of preachers and students, and the writer was assured by a resident acquainted with the local dialect, that many of the lecturers showed a thorough knowledge of the subjects treated, reflecting much credit on their teacher, Dr. Mackay. At the conclusion of the addresses, the wedding party having taken up their positions in front of the pulpit, Dr. Mackay read the marriage service. The bridegroom showed the knowledge of his responsibilities by the difficulty he found in uttering the responses, and the bride was most becomingly bashful, and completely lost her voice. The knot being tied, the bridal party, and the foreign and native guests, adjourned to the vestry, where the bride handed round tea and cake. If the fact of securing the first sweet from the cake bears any significance, a well-known member of our community will very likely have something to store for him.

An unfortunate accident occurred in the engine room of the *Halleong* on her last trip from Amoy to this port, by which the 2nd engineer, Mr. Stoppel, had both feet badly scalded. He is, however, progressing favourably.

The F. T. Co.'s steamship *Smith* is in Hongkong qualifying for a passenger certificate. It will require something like \$5000 to render her

efficient. The *Carr* is likely to be placed temporarily on the Amoy run when the returns from her port.

The tea-pickers are beginning to come over, so there will be some little opposition between the steamers conveying them.—*Mercury*.

## MOURDEN.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

March 26th.

At last there is some hope of our Manchurian railway becoming a reality. Towards the end of last year it was reported that the project had been indefinitely postponed, owing to the large demands for relief in the flooded districts of Chihli having emptied the Imperial Treasury. Others thought that the proposal to build the line had been made simply as a counter-blast to Russia in Siberia, and that the Government never seriously meant to carry it into effect. Now, however, I learn from a thoroughly reliable source that work may be started any time. Some time ago additional surveys in the Shingching Province were made by one of the engineers. The route has not yet been finally decided upon. There are two alternatives. It may run either from Shan Hai Kuan due east to the port of Newchwang, thence north-east via Liao-yang and Moukden, or after leaving Shan Hai Kuan, proceed in a north-easterly direction, following the Imperial road, via Chinchow, Kuangning, Hsin-min-tun, and Moukden, with a junction near the latter place for the Newchwang and Moukden branch. The latter route will probably be chosen, not only because it is shorter, but also because it traverses a rich and prosperous country; and at Hsin-min-tun it could be fed by an enormous trade from the great north-west. In any case it must keep to the west of Moukden, lest the *Yang shui* of the Imperial and other tombs be injured. So anxious were the authorities on this score that on the maps originally supplied to the Foreign engineers the Imperial tombs were intentionally placed west of the city instead of east.

Manchuria has suddenly risen into prominence. Its coal mines are now attracting the attention of a syndicate of foreign and native gentry. The other day I was told that a short time previous to the death of the Seventh Prince, that liberal minded statesman, obtained an Imperial Decree sanctioning important mining operations in Manchuria, especially boring for petroleum in four different centres, namely southern Chinchow, Foochow, Liao-yang, and east of Moukden. Meantime it is premature to mention names, but to-day I translated two important letters from Foreign representatives of the syndicate to a high official at present staying here. Foreign engineers are expected soon with boring and testing implements.

Manchuria is full of wealth, and China will not part with it to Russia without a severe struggle; but she is altogether unprepared for it now. With the exception of Hanchun the whole north-east is quite unprotected.

Curious experiences sometimes fall to medical men in China. To-day a foreign doctor here was invited to examine the foot of a native young lady of eighteen, hidden behind curtains. Only the foot was visible. Being near her marriage day it was not proper for her to be seen by men, especially strangers.

Sometimes I hear of a similar case where an extremely young lady with a bad cough pushed on to her feet between two curtains for the foreign doctor to examine her pulse.—*Mercury*.

## TIENTSIN.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

April 4th, 1891.

I see by your morning contemporary that Gen. T. Schnell has contradicted what appeared in my former letter that appeared in the *Mercury* about the bursting of two Krupp guns. In his letter to the *N.C. Daily News* of the 30th ultimo he styles himself Chief Instructor of Artillery for the Northern Defence; what that title may mean I cannot say. However, that is nothing to do with the point in question. Gen. Schnell states that the whole damage amounted to some mere scratches and chips in the rifling. The accident I referred to was reported to me by those who ought to know, and since I read Gen. Schnell's letter in the *N.C. Daily News* I have made further enquiries, and I send the report, in Chinese, from his Ex. Teh Fung-long of Port Arthur to his Ex. Li Hung-chang, the Viceroy, relating to the bursting of two Krupp guns on the 28th October, 1890, the rough translation of which is as follows:—

"Tooling for Artillery and Infantry at Salkum. An Expectant Tootal Teh reports that this year about the middle of the 9th moon, while in discharge of his duties at Paksan fort, and during the time of the practice of cannons, 24 c.m., the cannons known as No. 16 and No. 19, a new kind of Krupp's steel cannons, at the time of firing burst (or exploded) and twisted the rifled grooves. I think, and my opinion is, that the loading of the cannon was not properly done, or the brass cap was not screwed tight enough, or it may be that the charge was not properly placed, or the brass bands round the cartridge (shell) was not so well made as the 'La-dongs.' It may be that the cotton on the cartridge was not tight enough, or the brass castings on the cartridge had sand-holes in them, and therefore exploded in the groove. Now-a-days there are a great many kinds of fuses and many ways of fixing them, and the slightest error will cause mishaps. I therefore report this to your Excellency. (Li Hung-chang) for your consideration."

By itself it will be clearly seen that some accident did take place. I am also told that the guns supplied by Messrs. Schneider & Co., from the Creusot Works, in France, did excellent work with the same powder used by the Krupp guns, and that no accidents have occurred to them. As I have nothing whatever to do with guns, it does not matter to me which are the best. I only send you items that I think will prove interesting to your readers. I would just as soon the Chinese Government bought their guns from Krupp as from France, or from England.

His Excellency Li, Chief Director of the Shanghai Gold Mines, is in Peking, and Mr. Ma Kien-chang is still at Ning-hai-chu, waiting there to hear the result from his Excellency Li in Peking.

The Dutch flag, which for years has been displayed at the flagstaff of Messrs. E. Meyer & Co., has been hoisted at the flagstaff of Messrs. H. Maund & Co.

By the *Halen*, Mr. Ed. Heldemann, of Berlin, has arrived here. He arrived here on December 8th, 1890, and established the firm of Messrs. Ad. Heldemann & Co., Berlin, Bremen and London, as the Deutsch-Chinesische Handels-gesellschaft (German-Chinese Mercantile Company). I am sorry to say that Mr. Heldemann's health is not very good, and that is why he is bound home. He will be missed here, and his friends wish him a *bon voyage*, and speedy return.

The Keping Mining Company is doing very well, the demand being larger than the supply. The advantages are gaining ground slowly, but nevertheless successfully here, as well as at Peking and Kirin; in the manufacturing of steel-bronze guns and smokeless powder.

The extension of the Keping Mining Co. to Lip-tai has cost the company an extra Tiao 300,000, so that now the Company has an invested capital of about Tiao 2,500,000. Its mining operations at Keping.—*Mercury*.

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THREE DOLLARS.

There is not space in the compass of an Ordinary Advertisement to detail all the information introduced into the work, but it may be fairly asserted that no such Directory has ever been published, either in Hongkong or any other part of the East, at such a low price.

"THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY AND HONG LIST FOR THE FAR EAST" offers Special Advantages as an Advertising Medium. It has an extensive circulation in all Ports between Singapore and Newchwang, in the Australian Colonies, the United States, and the United Kingdom, and the sale of charges has been fixed at an exceptionally low rate. Terms can be learned on application.

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Orders for COPIES, and for ADVERTISEMENTS may be sent to the Agents at the various Ports, or to the Office of

"THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH,"

PRINCE'S HILL, HONGKONG.

Hongkong, 15th January 1891.

For Sale.

For Sale.

For Sale.

For Sale.

For Sale.

For Sale.

For Sale.

For Sale.

For Sale.

For Sale.

For Sale.

For Sale.

For Sale.

For Sale.

For Sale.

For Sale.

## For Sale.

## INTIMATION.

J. Blackhead & Co.

SHIP-CHANDLERS, SAIL-MAKERS,

AND

PROVISION MERCHANTS,

NAVY CONTRACTORS,

AND

GENERAL COMMISSION AGENTS

No. 11, Praya Central,

(Opposite Padder's Wharf).

SOLE AGENTS

for

RAHTJEN'S

GENUINE

COMPOSITION

FOR

THE BOTTOMS OF IRON SHIPS.

HARTMANN'S GREY PAINT, specially manufactured for coating the inside of STEEL SHIPS.

SPECIALY SELECTED,

EX. PRIME, PORK AND BEEF in Barrels.

Also

AMERICAN PRIME SUGAR-CURED

HAMS AND BACON.

CHR. MOTZ & Co., BORDEAUX CLARETS.

CEMENT from the celebrated Factory of Henmoor.

FLENSBURG STOCK BEER,

ENGINEERS' AND BLACKSMITHS'

MACHINERY AND TOOLS.

EVERY KIND OF

SHIPS STORES AND REQUISITES

ALWAYS IN STOCK

AT

REASONABLE PRICES.

ALL KINDS OF

COALS

SUPPLIED AT THE SHORTEST NOTICE.

Hongkong, 25th March 1891.

JUST ARRIVED, FOR SALE.

THE New Stem Winder and Enamelled Dial

WATERBURY WATCH.

SERIES J.—For Gentlemen, or large size.

SERIES L.—For Ladies, or small size.

Winds in less than a dozen turns.

\$4.75 Jewelled, Dust-proof, Keyless, with

each, all the latest improvements. A

perfect and unrivalled timekeeper; reliable, durable and accurate,

and also

SERIES E.—The "Good old favorite." The

best form of the original Waterbury; offered at

the reduced price of \$3.75 each.

Orders for Out-ports to be accompanied by remittance for cost.

THE MITSUBI BUSSAN KAISHA,

Sole Agents in Japan, China,

Corea, Hongkong & Macao.

No. 10, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

Hongkong, 20th February, 1891.

CHS. J. GAUPP & CO.

CHRONOMETER, WATCH, AND CLOCK-

MAKERS, JEWELLERS, SILVER-

SMITHS, AND OPTICIANS.

CHARTS AND BOOKS.

NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS.

Sole Agents for London, Antwerp, Watches;

awarded the highest Prize at every Exhibition;

and for Votelandt and Sohn's

CELEBRATED OPERA GLASSES,

MARINE GLASSES, and SPYGLASSES,

W. D. O'Brien & Co., London.

CARBOLEUM AVENARUS,

(REGISTERED).

AN ANTISEPTIC PAINT for the Preservation

of Wood, Walls, Ropes and Ship's

Tackle. May be applied to Beams, Floors, Wall-

coating, Wooden Ornament, Eaves, Roofs,

Wooden Sheds, Farmers' and Gardeners' Im-

plements, Cattle, Pigs, Fences, Stables, Gates,

Bricks, Boats, and all Timber underground.

Effectually excludes all dampness from walls

and entirely prevents the crumbling

away and decay of both stone and bricks.

White ants do not touch wood painted with

Carbolineum Avénarus.

Used during the last 14 years with the utmost

success, as proved by numerous Testimonials

from living authorities.

Sold in casks of about 450 lbs. net. Price

8 cents per lb.

For further particulars, apply to

SCHEELE & Co.,

Sole Agents,

No. 16, Stanley Street.

Hongkong, 2nd December, 1890.

FOR SALE.

THE Schooner "MONTARA,"

Length.....75 feet.

Beam.....12 feet.

Depth of hold.....7 feet.

Registered tonnage.....75 tons.

(Owing to recent alterations, the carrying

capacity of the *Montara* has been increased to

about 120 tons, dead weight.)



